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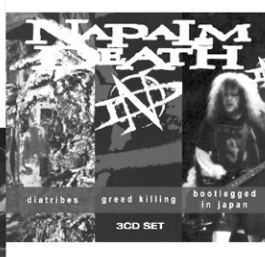
winter
READING



DIORAMA BY THE NINJAS OF CRAFT | PHOTO BY TRASK BEDORTA



Bonded By Blood
Exiled to Earth



Napalm Death
Diatribes
Greed Killing
Bootlegged in Japan



Oceano
Contagion

Your Choice
\$11⁹⁹

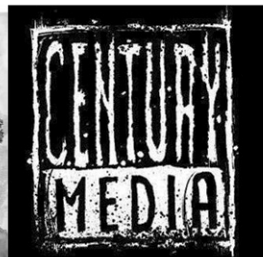
Evile
Infected Nations: Redux
Edition (Bonus CD)



Daath
Self-titled
\$11⁹⁹

Intronaut
Valley of Smoke

\$11⁹⁹



Firewind
Days of Defiance

\$11⁹⁹



Lacuna Coil
Shallow Life
(Bonus CD)

\$12⁹⁹



Terror
Keepers of the Faith

\$7⁹⁹



Various Artists
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\$11⁹⁹



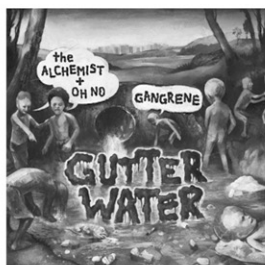
Chali 2Na
Fish Market

\$7⁹⁹



Gangrene
(Alchemist + Oh No)
Gutter Water

\$10⁹⁹



Lyrics Born
As U Were

\$10⁹⁹



Neka
Concrete Jungle

\$8⁹⁹



Carl Broemel
All Birds Say

\$8⁹⁹



Drive By Truckers
Big To-Do

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John Butler Trio
April Uprising

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Widespread Panic
Dirty Side Down

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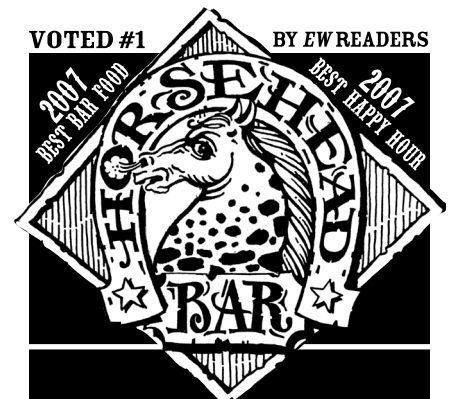
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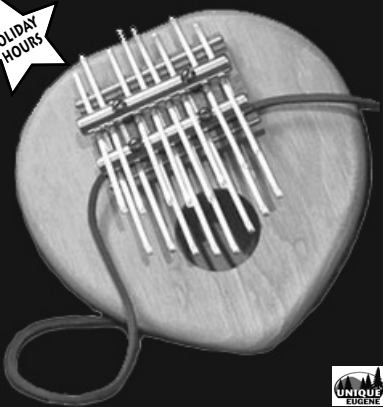
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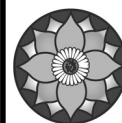
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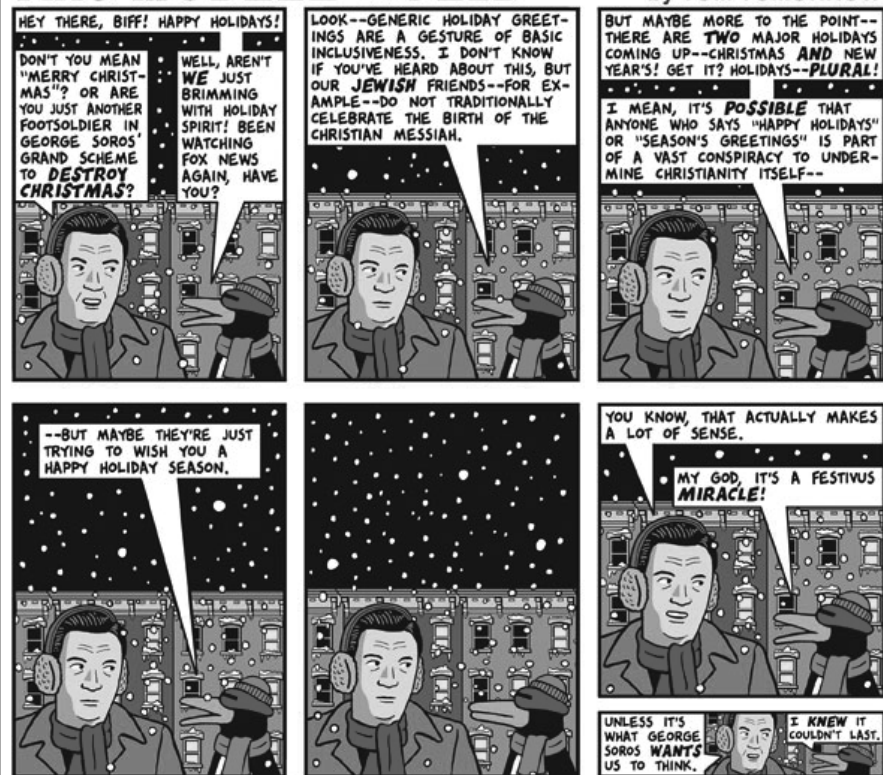
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by TOM TOMORROW



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GOOD & BAD NEWS

Good news. The Oregon Dungeness crab industry is now certified sustainable by the Marine Stewardship Council, and more Willamette Valley farmers are growing food crops. Wikileaks is the best thing to happen to this country and the world to expose illegal government operations and corporate corruption since the Pentagon Papers and Watergate.

Bad news. Three Lane County commissioners are being bullied by one of the wealthiest people in the county, Aaron Jones, owner of Seneca Sawmill. (Just intimidation?) EWEB and some of its bumbling bureaucrats are claiming they have a right to keep secrets. Rep. DeFazio keeps the asphalt pork rolling in to build new "parkways" and pedestrian bridges to nowhere, Delta Ponds and Gateway Mall. I haven't heard much about "pork" going towards a rail line that would get you to Portland at least as quick as driving, nor towards bicycle/pedestrian bridges over the most dangerous intersections and bridges.

Shannon Wilson
Eugene

NOT A BLIGHT

Recently, my family has been considering moving to Missouri, a state that is politically hostile to us liberal radicals, but which offers the chance to live in a community of people who have devoted their lives to service, in the manner of Francis of Assisi, and also to a small ecological footprint.

Eugene lost my vote of confidence when

I received two notices on my school bus motor-home that declared we were illegally "camping" on a public street, and that we had to remove our vehicle from the area within 24 hours, or face fines and towing. We are not indigent. We are college educated. I am a professional, licensed holistic health practitioner, trained in permaculture design, traditional and alternative construction and gardening. I am, as well, a writer and musician. We are raising children.

We have chosen this lifestyle of radical simplicity deliberately, in light of the excessive and unsustainable nature of our disposable culture. We interact with money as little as possible. We wash our dishes with refilled gallon jugs of water, using about 4 gallons a day for a family of four. We cook in the small galley in our bus and use shared resources for our personal washing needs.

Eugene was one of the few places in the country that seemed to recognize that people can live nomadically (we moved every 72 hours, as required) for good reason. City Code 4.815 may suggest otherwise, but I know that we were an asset to, not a blight upon, our community.

Gavain U'Prichard
Eugene

CHRISTMAS IN MY FACE

Here we are at the most wonderful time of the year again. People getting worked up into a frenzy to shop, shop, shop til they drop, drop, drop. Feeling pressured to scurry around buying things for just about everybody they know. (Whether or

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not these people really need or want these gifts.) How senseless! Money and energy would be far better spent by helping people in our community who really need help.

Christmas is in the air and in our faces just about everywhere we go this time of year. Christmas trees, religious music playing, baby Jesus in his manger, all praising the birth of our Lord and Savior. Well, Jesus is not everyone's Lord and Savior, and it would do well for people to realize that not everybody in this country is Christian.

Public places and businesses should be welcoming to people of all religions and beliefs. Get Christmas out of my face! Maybe some businesses should simply hang a sign on their door: "Christians Only." But then that might affect the bottom line.

*Allan Grossman
Springfield*

CONFUSING MESS

Sorry to say, Alan Pittman, your EmX myth-busting article (11/24) is a confusing mess, just as the LTD EmX plan is. First, West 11th is not congested! I can confirm what the city consultant reported. One can drive the strip from Garfield to Bailey Hill in 3 to 4 minutes and another 3 minutes to Beltline. Congestion on West 11th is the same myth/lie used by developers promoting the infamous West Eugene Parkway.

The fallback argument is that with population growth, West 11th will be congested. Your own News Briefs (11/24)

reported Lane County grew only by an estimated 860 people last year. I have been traveling the road for 23 years. It still is not congested. It's obvious EmX supporters do not know our area.

Your first Fact Check says "LTD ... would remove almost all of the dedicated bus lanes." Then Fact Check 3 states "75-90 percent [are] dedicated travel lanes and exclusive transit-ways." So which is it? Building dedicated lanes is the same as building a new road. I oppose building roads. And, since West 11th is not congested, we do not need dedicated lanes. I do support bus stop pull-outs, shelters and wheelchair ramps — good ideas anywhere.

We already have buses here. It would be great if everyone working and living out here would use them. The only time buses are even close to being full is winter rush hours and December shopping season. Many hours a day West 11th buses are lucky to carry five passengers. How efficient is that?

Your article gives plenty of reasons to use public transit, but this pork barrel bus from our King of the Roads congressman is not appropriate for West 11th.

*Jan Nelson
Crow*

GREENER THAN AUBURN

In October the Environmental Protection Agency had a contest aimed at getting universities hosting football games to get the fans to throw away less, recycle

more, etc., (search Wastewise EPA). I wanted to congratulate the facilities maintenance and the recycling people at the UO for their showing: Out of 75 schools we got a third, fourth and 15th ranking. In those same categories Auburn came in 46th, 42nd and 73rd. I am positive this means something, but I'm not sure what.

Unfortunately, we also came in 69th in "Per Capita Waste Generation" so there is lots of room for improvement. Though here again, Auburn was 73rd. Eat that, Cam Newton.

*Kevin O'Brien
Eugene*

CHOOSE A SIDE

Mayor Kitty Piercy organized a community forum Dec. 14 to deal with the budget shortfall of \$30 million facing our schools. Who will step up and save our schools?

So far, 4J teachers, cooks, bus drivers, janitors, etc., have stepped up and taken pay cuts for two years in a row in form of furlough days and frozen salaries. They gave time and millions of dollars to our kids and their education. They have sacrificed enough.

Now is the time for others, wealthy individuals and businesses, to do their part. They have just received a huge federal income tax break from Congress, lower tax on capital gains and dividends as well as lower rate on estate tax.

They have argued that they needed

these tax breaks in order to stimulate the economy by creating jobs. Here is their chance to save local jobs of more than a hundred teachers, secretaries, bus drivers, aides, etc. They can use the money given to them by Congress and for the next two years invest their savings in the local economy.

A temporary 3 percent city income tax for individuals and businesses making more than \$250,000 should be enacted starting in 2011 and dedicated to Eugene schools. Eugene can strike a blow to the income inequality that's destroying our country. We can become a model for others.

No school closures, no teacher layoffs or pay cuts and a full school year for our kids. The choice is clear Eugene. It's time to decide, "Which side are you on?"

*Pete Mandrapa
Eugene*

MAGNITUDE OF TALENT

It was my great pleasure last weekend to experience first hand the claim that Eugene is "A Great City for the Arts & Outdoors." Friday night's Art Walk took me past many lively galleries — Woodpecker's Muse among them with an exemplary exhibit of nudes and mixed media by UO's Sarah Refvem.

And speaking of UO, what about those Ducks! Saturday night I started the evening at Cozmic Pizza where there was a benefit for African children that featured the beautiful voice of Shelly James and musicianship of Cal Coleman — talk

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viewpoint BY PETE SORENSON

Taking Care of Business

Trying to help constituents leads to lawsuit

Former Lane County Commissioner Ellie Dumdi and Ed Anderson, a guy I've never met, sued Commissioners Bill Fleenor, Rob Handy and me under the Oregon Open Meetings law. They alleged that we had met together secretly to create a supplemental budget to enable the county to hire constituent service assistants. Last week a trial was held in Lane County Circuit Court. This is the first part of my view of the case.

As Fleenor, Handy and I all testified under oath, the three of us never met together privately. In fact, Fleenor voted against the supplemental budget that was the subject of the lawsuit. The most Handy and I can be accused of is having voted, along with Commissioner Bill Dwyer, to approve a budget intended to enhance constituent services. The budget did that in a revenue-neutral way, by carving up a previously budgeted higher-paid position into five pieces, providing five lower-paid, part-time assistants to help constituents.

You might ask: Why did we think constituents needed that help? To understand, go to the county's website and review the agenda for any meeting of the commissioners. You'll see that we have to handle responsibly a great many complex matters that require careful consideration. The hazard here is that constituent services will suffer. With the constituent services assistants, we can better respond to requests for help that are also many and varied. Maybe an unemployed person needs guidance getting help from the Lane Workforce Partnership. Maybe a couple with an idea for a small business needs information from the county's economic development program. Maybe a property taxpayer wants to contest an assessment. Maybe a worried mother needs mental health services for her son. Many people don't even know where to turn for these services. Our constituent services assistants can tell them.

The supplemental budget at issue in the lawsuit was passed by routine procedure, guided by Christine Moody, who is in charge of preparing the budgets. Supplemental budgets are not unusual. The main business at hand is to make sure the budget is currently in balance, receive and spend the millions of dollars that come in from federal and state taxpayers. It is always property tax neutral, meaning that there's no increase or decrease in property taxes.

Most of the time, no one comes to the meetings and hearings, as usually they are pretty boring. More rarely, the meetings are hot and contentious, and hundreds of people come. In October 2009, after finishing the fiscal year 2009-10 Supplemental Budget One, Moody began working on fiscal year 2009-10 Supplemental Budget Two. I'll call it "Supp Two."

Moody assembled the usual decision packet for Supp Two, placed a notice for the meeting in *The Register-Guard*, and made sure the agenda and packet were copied and distributed to all commissioners well in advance of the meeting, published on the county's website and emailed to Lane County's media list. The full-time, higher-paid position I mentioned had been adopted by the board on a 5-0 vote in June 2009. This budget included the "reprogramming" of that unfilled and unspent higher-paid, full-time position to the five part-time and lower-paid positions I mentioned.

Moody's memo to the board, available on the county website, said the board had the opportunity to approve, amend, disapprove or otherwise dispose of Supp Two. On Dec. 9, 2009 at 9 am Moody came to Harris Hall, where the Board of Commissioners has met most Wednesdays for the past two years, and explained that a notice went out to the newspaper, that a public hearing was going to take place and then the board could decide what to do. I chaired the meeting and opened the public hearing, but no one testified. The board then started its deliberation, with Handy moving to approve Supp Two and Dwyer seconding the motion. Stewart and Fleenor opposed it. Supp Two was approved on a 3-2 vote. As chair, I signed the board order that Moody had prepared.

I was shocked to find this whole process the subject of a lawsuit two months later. The trial court's decision is likely by mid-January 2011. After the court's decision, I'll have more to say.

Peter Sorenson serves on the Lane Board of County Commissioners. He can be reached at Pete.Sorenson@co.lane.or.us



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about your “Dynamic Duo”! Kudana’s marimbas and singing couldn’t have been more inspiring. What a treasure!

I finished the night at Sam Bond’s with rousing jug band sounds of the Blair Street Mugwumps — just plain fun! And Sunday found me in the Hult Center audience at Eugene Concert Choir’s holiday offering, “A Celtic Christmas.” From the first chord of their first song, “The Voice,” it was a perfect musical experience. And these are all *local* singers and musicians! These are the same people we work with, stand in line at the grocery store with and meet in countless other ways in Eugene.

I’m blown away by the magnitude of talent in our community.

*Bobbie Cirel
Eugene*

JUST WALK AWAY

Regarding Jennifer Roppe’s letter (12/2) about women: I agree. Women are the most amazing creatures roaming the earth, but if her friend can do all these wonderful things, there is the one big problem. She can’t walk away from an abusive relationship. Yes, abusive. She sounds like she has abused-woman syndrome where one stays despite the abuse. Due to some “rational” reason, she stays. Have her get some professional support, leave the low-life and have her meet one of the many “knows-what-a-partner-is” guys in the area who would love to be part of someone’s life like hers.

*Richard T. Foley
Springfield*

EMX CORRECTION

As a follow up to my previous letter, “The Loudest Voices” (12/2), I would like to apologize for some outdated information. I have been closely following the West 11th EmX expansion issue since September of this year.

I said the LTD stated it wasn’t going to use state funds, which was incorrect. I had based this information on a statement from LTD, which was given in September and has since changed. As anyone who has been following the subject has seen, LTD will be applying for a portion of the Oregon state lottery funds. I did notice that my information was incorrect before publication but unfortunately it was after any changes could be made.

While there will be state funding involved, the federal grant will absorb the majority of the cost. And as the *Weekly* pointed out, the West 11th EmX expansion will save the state government and Eugeneans money in the long run.

So please remember my previous letter for the point, not the mistake. Don’t let yourself be overtaken by the loudest voices in the room, or because there are faults with LTD and its supporters/customers, namely me. Make your decision by what’s best for Eugene, not just businesses or bus riders.

*Brent Gardner
Eugene*

DON’T CUT ANY TREES

From Alan Pittman’s green dragon article (11/24): Myth: Many large trees will be cut down for EmX. Fact: The LTD

design options will remove 98 to 288 trees that are more than 8 inches in diameter. I don’t get it. How does this fact make the preceding statement a myth?

Someone’s brain doesn’t consider a minimum of 98 trees to be many trees? One tree would be too many.

I could make this the longest letter ever written but people who don’t get the situation on planet Earth by now aren’t going to no matter what. So this letter is just to remind everyone else that if it comes down to it, these trees’ lives are going to need to be defended and saved.

First do no harm.

*Genelle McDaniel
Eugene*

EDITOR’S NOTE: Our understanding is that very few, if any, large and healthy trees more than 50 years old are in danger of being cut.

SHE’S NOT PRETTY

A friend mentioned to me that they saw a letter in *EW* about my car being an eyesore. I haven’t been able to find the letter, and I’ll admit that there is a large possibility that the letter doesn’t exist and that my friend was slyly dissing my car. However, the discussion has prompted me to write a letter about said vehicle.

I call her the Little Blue Pill. She is a 1993 Ford Festiva. There are several Festivas in Eugene, but mine is probably the most noticeable. She is blue with a gray fender on the passenger side and no driver’s side fender. You can hear her coming from a few blocks away.

A lot of people in Eugene like to stare

at the Pill disapprovingly, especially downtown. I think if people knew why I kept her around, maybe they wouldn’t be so upset. She gets 45 MPG in town and around 48 on the highway. After a tune-up and an oil change she will likely get over 50 on the highway. I pay \$280 for an entire year of insurance. Because of good engine maintenance, I hardly have to put money into her for repairs. Plus I own her outright, so if excrement hits the cooling device at least I’ve got a mobile shelter.

She has served me well for many years and yeah, she isn’t pretty, but she is a testament to endurance and fortitude in the face of a crappy economy. Too often people throw out things because they are no longer aesthetically pleasing even though there is a lot of use left. I think now is the time people should think about keeping things around a bit longer.

*Kristina Fyrewof
Eugene*

GRATEFUL WORDS

Just writing to say a few words of thanks. Thanks to UO for providing a place for our class to meet on Tuesday nights. The class is the DIVA Center’s “Behind The Lens” seminar hosted by Tom Blank. The class is also a non-credit course offered through the LCC Community Education program. Next movie will be shown on Jan. 4. Call 344-3482 for more information. Also, thanks to the city of Eugene for changing the parking situation in the downtown area.

*Martin E. Williams
Eugene*

Viewpoint BY ROB HANDY

Breaking the Silence

Now that the testimony is over

Now that the lawsuit against County Commissioners Sorenson, Fleenor and me is safely in the hands of the judge, I feel free to break my silence. The seeds of this lawsuit go back two years to my entrance on to the county political scene. In those first days of being a rookie commissioner, I was welcomed by some friendly county staff and was warned by others to watch my back as there were a couple of staffers who had very strong and personal feelings about me beating a long-time incumbent. I was warned that a few of these staffers also seemed to be acting as political operatives for those outside the county who had very specific political agendas.

It became clear in my first weeks in office that this was true; I saw that a few staffers consistently reported on hallway conversations, one-on-one meetings and/or overheard comments (the non-glass walls are paper thin) to county staff throughout the organization, to political opponents and to the media. In my very first week in office, I received the first of what would be a series of “tips” from within the county that a few staff members were spreading rumors that the three of us were meeting together. No one would state exactly who was spreading these – and other rumors – just that we should always be aware that our conduct was being monitored. Since I had no conduct I was worried about, I simply shrugged and moved on. I have never known how to effectively respond to anonymous attacks.

A key point for the public to understand is the fact

that there is nothing illegal or unethical about three or even four or five county commissioners getting together outside of the public setting. We can gather, and in the past some have – to debate Duck games, for political functions, lunch, birthday parties or sporting events. What Oregon law states is that three or more commissioners cannot get together as a quorum and deliberate on county business outside of the public eye. For me, because of the early warnings, I decided not to open myself up for speculation and to never put myself in a situation where three of us, let alone four or five of us were together, however innocuous. It is ironic to me that in the end, this didn’t matter. We were accused of it anyway.

Folks, we work in glass offices, side by side, and commissioners are constantly popping in and out of each other’s offices. It is how we work as the commissioners of today; it is how they worked in yesteryears, and how we will be working with the new board, come January. One-on-one communication is essential to good governance and to building the working relationships necessary to be effective.

Another issue in the lawsuit became about a set of meetings that happened before and during the budget process in the spring of 2009 by some folks on the budget committee. After reflecting on the criticism about those meetings, I feel I did learn a valuable lesson – although I learned it long before it became an issue in this lawsuit. We met, first as just the brand new members, and then were joined later by a few others to make sure we were up to speed – there were many complex as well as controversial items we were dealing with during that time. I asked our county counsel if it was OK for these meetings to occur – and



was told that it was fine as long as we never met with a quorum. We made sure there was never a quorum and met mostly in the glass conference room at the commissioners’ office before moving the last few meetings to the open restaurant of the Hilton.

Although we never had a quorum, I could see – after the fact – how those meetings, while not illegal, were perceived to be back-room politics. It is ironic that I already learned from that rookie mistake long before it was ever made a headline issue in a court of law; there have been no meetings of those types occurring in the three budget processes that occurred after the spring of 2009.

This lawsuit was filed in order to bring political harm to us by our political opponents.

It seems clear that Seneca Sawmill and its allies were joined by an attorney who works with Bill Sizemore in order to meet a political agenda. They simply used staffers willing to act as political operatives in our own office to accomplish this. I believe that this lawsuit has damaged not only our personal reputations but also the belief that people have in government itself. I believe in the electoral process: If any elected official acts in a way that is unacceptable then we vote him or her out of office. We don’t file weak civil lawsuits that turn government into a public circus that costs us much in public resources and in morale.

I look forward to next year and continuing the hard work of governing Lane County, and I appreciate all the support as well as the criticism I have received in these past months. I believe I keep learning from my mistakes and correct them. Although painful, I think all of this makes me a stronger and better commissioner.

Rob Handy serves on the Lane Board of County Commissioners. He can be reached at Rob.Handy@co.lane.or.us

UO TUITION INCREASE PLANNED?

So what does the UO's complicated restructuring plan really mean?

Nike billionaire Phil Knight, the UO mega-donor who some critics have said has too much power over the public university, told *The Oregonian* Dec. 5 that it's about going private and raising tuition.

Knight told the paper that he supports and was consulted on the restructuring plan the UO is lobbying for in the state Legislature. "It's to take a step — I hate to use the word because it's an oversimplification — but to take a step toward becoming more of a private university."

In more of a private university, the UO president "can set his own tuition. He's hamstrung in the sense he can't charge more tuition than the Legislature will let him do for in-state kids."

The UO had a plan for privatizing the university and raising tuition in response to dramatic budget cuts in the early 1990s, but the plan failed in the state Legislature. *The Register-Guard* reported in 1993 on a study of UO privatization in a story headlined: "Making UO private would save little money; A legislative report says that higher tuition would drive away students and force cuts in faculty."

The legislative report found that the plan would about quadruple in-state tuition. Such a dramatic increase would out-price about 60 percent of students, causing a big reduction in enrollment, according to the study. The loss of students would force the UO to lay off large numbers of faculty and staff who would take their federal grants with them, the *R-G* reported.

Privatization "would not only sharply reduce access to Oregonians but also have wrenching consequences for the economy of Lane County," the *R-G* quoted the report.

The UO has not said how much tuition would increase under its new restructuring plan. The UO has also changed significantly since 1993 with higher out-of-state tuition increasingly making up for reductions in state funding. Knight told *The Oregonian*: "It's become the University of California at Eugene. That's the result of the current Legislature's policies."

The State University of New York (SUNY) chancellor has proposed an autonomy/restructuring plan similar to the UO's proposal. A hedge fund billionaire raised "hackles" this year when he made a big donation conditional to approval of the plan, *The New York Times* reported. But recent press reports have the SUNY plan failing in the legislature due to concerns from unions and fears that tuition increases will reduce access to higher education. — *Alan Pittman*

news Briefs

FOUNTAIN TO REUSE, NOT RECYCLE

In response to new state health rules, EWEB has changed its popular interactive fountain by the river to not recirculate water. Instead, the fountain will spray drinking water in smaller jets, for fewer hours and fewer days and the water will be reused for irrigation, according to EWEB. The work to reconfigure the fountain was finished in June and cost \$85,000, EWEB spokesman Joe Harwood said.

Portland took a less expensive and disruptive approach of just posting signs near its waterfront Salmon Street Springs and other popular interactive fountains warning that the water was not drinkable, according to the city website.

Told of Portland's approach, Harwood said, "Really?" Asked if EWEB had considered just putting in signs, he said, "Nope, didn't look into that." Harwood added, "I guess we didn't think about trying to subvert the law; Portland did."

EWEB estimated that treating the

recirculated fountain water to comply with regulations similar to those for swimming pools would require a large, unsightly water treatment facility at the plaza at a cost of \$180,000. Instead, EWEB chose to use smaller jets and pump the water into a new 15,000 gallon irrigation storage tank on the side of the building. Re-using the water for irrigation could reduce the amount of potable water the utility uses.

Because of the limited storage capacity, the public utility will now run the fountain from 8 am until midnight during the irrigation season from April 15 to Nov. 15 instead of running it all the time like the old fountain.

The Portland Water Bureau took a simpler signage approach and interpretation of the state health rules. "New regulations require us to post signage that meets health codes at any fountain considered to be interactive," the bureau wrote on its website in May. "We have been working with state and county representatives for many months now, trying to agree on language that meets their needs, our needs and the needs of the community. Thankfully, final language has been approved and approved signage is on order."

The new EWEB fountain will look substantially different, according to an EWEB newsletter. "Regular visitors to the plaza will notice some fairly significant changes, as the nine large jets that used to shoot straight up in the air have been replaced with several smaller jets that form a dome-like appearance."

The original riverfront plaza was built by the city of Eugene in 1990 and given to EWEB to maintain. — *Alan Pittman*

COUNTY LANDS LABORS LOST

Buy high, sell low? That's what critics say Oregon's Land Board has done in the sale of 857 acres of Lane County land since 2006. And Lane County commissioners say they didn't have their fair, law-mandated say in the matter. Tim Lewis of PictureEugene says the timber being cut on one of the swapped properties in the McKenzie River watershed includes massive old-growth trees.

The State Land Board oversees about 770,000 acres of land dedicated to the Common School Fund. While timber no longer produces revenue comparable to the state's original funding scheme, it continues to contribute between \$40 million and \$55 million to the fund each year.

Lane County Commissioners sent a letter to the Land Board in November, declaring their opposition to the sales and protesting a lack of notification in the matter.

Land Board spokeswoman Julie Curtis says that despite some technical glitches, commissioners were notified of the sales by email or with paper copies. In addition, Curtis says that the sales were advertised in the *R-G* and the *Oregonian* to solicit public comment.

Forester and timber broker Roy Keene says that however the deal was made, selling land used for timber in a slump rather than waiting for a bump in prices was a bad idea. "If I had a client who came to me with a deal like that," he says, "I'd say no way, José! Don't touch it!"

According to Keene, shifting the public land into private hands is a boon to timber companies, including one owned by the relative of a forestry board member. "The timber was appraised at domestic lot prices," he says. "However, since they are not holding the timber as a public entity they can export that timber, so they've got an



Trucks taking old-growth logs from the swapped land to the coast for overseas export, according to PictureEugene

STILL COURTESY PICTUREEUGENE

immediate 30 to 40 percent windfall on that price."

Curtis asserts that all decisions regarding the Common School Fund lands were made according to the Land Board's master plan. "We have an asset management plan that guides our staff and the Land Board in managing our lands," she says. "One of the things that we're trying to do is to take a look at isolated or difficult for us to manage parcels that we could sell and we reinvest those sale proceeds into either purchase property that has either a higher degree of generating revenue for the Common School Fund or we put it back into our

existing properties."

Samantha Chirillo of Cascadia's Ecosystem Advocates says some of the trees in the North Fork Quartz Creek parcel were at least 500 years old. The group is concerned, she says, because a member of the Giustina family sat on the Board of Forestry, which has jurisdiction over two parcels that Giustina timber company acquired in the swap.

PictureEugene's video of the massive logs Lewis says were cut from former public land can be seen at blogs.eugeneweekly.com — *Shannon Finnell*



TRANSPLAN IS BACK

Public comments are being solicited on the future of the Eugene area's transportation needs over the next 20 years. The area's current transportation plan, called TransPlan, was adopted in 2001, calling for increased emphasis on bike and pedestrian networks, transit connections to mixed use centers, and bus rapid transit. Some of this planning has been implemented in recent years, though the bulk of transportation dollars have gone to pavement for cars and trucks.

The Eugene Transportation System Plan "will look at all transportation modes, including freight, pedestrians and bicyclists, transit, rail networks, airport and personal vehicles, to see what changes could be made to better meet the long-term needs of Eugene's residents, businesses, and visitors," according to a statement from Eugene Public Works.

A survey (see www.eugenetsp.org) is gathering information to be used by local agencies, including the cities of Eugene, Springfield and Coburg, Lane Transit District and the Lane Council of Governments.

WAR DEAD

In Afghanistan

- 1,417 U.S. troops killed* (1,407)
- 9,675 U.S. troops wounded in action (9,583)
- 594 U.S. contractors killed (594)
- \$374.6 billion cost of war (\$372.4 billion)
- \$106.5 million cost to Eugene taxpayers (\$105.9 million)

In Iraq

- 4,421 U.S. troops killed (4,421)
- 31,935 U.S. troops wounded in action (31,935)
- 185 U.S. military suicides (updates NA)
- 1,507 U.S. contractors killed (1,507)
- 108,107 to 1.2 million civilians killed* (108,094)
- \$746.2 billion cost of war (\$745.2 billion)
- \$212.2 million cost to Eugene taxpayers (\$211.9 million)

Through Dec. 13, 2010; sources: icasualties.org; defense.gov, U.S. Dept. of Labor

* highest estimate; source: iraqbodycount.org; based on confirmed media reports; other groups calculate Iraqi civilian deaths as high as 655,000 (Lancet survey, 2006) to 1.2 million (Opinion Research Business survey, 2008)

• Alan Pittman's extended **interview with Peter DeFazio** this week provides insights into how Congress functions and malfunctions in times of crisis. As we go to press our nation is at an ideological balancing point, and our home-grown congressman is right at the fulcrum. Obama and Congress are gambling that adding to our massive deficits will stimulate our economy enough to avoid catastrophe in the future. Will it work? We won't know for years, and whatever we do is tempered by the global economy, but we do know that the actions taken by Congress before it adjourns will become fodder for cynical and twisted finger-pointing in the 2012 elections. And the rich will get even richer.

• The trial testimony against three **Lane County commissioners** is over (see two Viewpoints this week) and it has become even more obvious to us that politics is driving this case rather than concern for justice or transparency. Much of the case and testimony merely tossed unsubstantiated accusations against the wall (and onto the pages of the R-G) to see what might stick, with the intention of stockpiling accusations and innuendos to be recycled by future opponents running against the commissioners. Ironically, the plaintiffs said early on that they were bringing this suit to protest the expense of part-time assistants for the commissioners, but this frivolous trial has cost the taxpayers enough money to fund those constituent services positions for many years.

• LCC is taking heat for canceling **Barry Sommer's class** on Islam, but the college is well within its rights as an institution of higher education to reevaluate its decision and bag the class. It's not an issue of free speech. Sommer can speak, and has spoken, anywhere he can find a podium, including the inflammatory Pacifica Forum series that ran for years on the UO campus. It appears LCC community education staff did not do enough research and were unaware of Sommer's talks at Pacifica Forum or his role as a founder of the Oregon chapter of ACT! for America with its exaggerated rhetoric against Islamic extremism. Sommer also has a blog at <http://wkly.ws/z1> focused on Muslims conspiring to take over the world. LCC has an obligation to tread very carefully in highly sensitive issues of religion, and examine the context of instruction. Canceling Sommer's class was a necessary, if awkward step.

• Chalk one up for gov-elect Kitzhaber. Good that he appointed **Nancy Golden**, Springfield superintendent of schools, and **Mary Spilde**, LCC president, to his education task force. He has given the group a short timeline to lay out the problems and possible solutions for Oregon's education crisis. It won't take long to figure out that this is a tough assignment in a state with a broken piggy bank.

• Remember **Cris Beamud**, Eugene's first independent police auditor? We were sad to see her go in 2008 after two tough, ground-breaking years. She was a strong and smart voice for transparency and oversight in Eugene after decades of police profiling, secrecy and abuse. We see she's now a finalist for the police monitor job in Austin, Texas. The issues in Austin are similar to those in Eugene. How much power and independence should the auditor have? At what point does the police union overstep its role and compromise the functioning of the auditor's office? If Austin is ready to take its auditor function to the next level, Beamud would be a good choice. We wish she were still here, confronting the police union and holding cops' feet to the fire.

• If you want even **more reading material** to while away the winter weather, here's a fine book by two prominent professors who grew up in Eugene and graduated from South Eugene High School. *Winner-Take-All Politics* with the subtitle *How Washington Made the Rich Richer - And Turned Its Back on the Middle Class* was published a few months ago by Simon & Schuster. The authors, Paul Pierson, political science professor at Berkeley, and Jacob Hacker, political science professor at Yale, nail both Democrats and Republicans for shredding much of the regulation that followed the Depression, and for abandoning progressive tax policies that helped the middle class. Pierson was in Eugene a few weeks ago to visit his parents, Joan and Stan Pierson, and met with a few UO academicians and like-minded friends. As for solutions, not much in sight, but the creative analysis in this book could help find a way.

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com

lighten up

Why is it that when Democrats oppose President Obama he takes them to the woodshed, but when Republicans do he takes them to lunch?

— Rafael Aldave, Eugene

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PETITION SEEKS SECOND CONCERT

An online petition at <http://wkly.ws/yx> is gathering “signatures” to lobby the UO Department Of Intercollegiate Athletics to schedule a second Elton John concert at the new Matthew Knight Arena.

Mister Ooh-La-La of Faux Show Productions in Eugene says he was one of the people caught up in the “fiasco” surrounding the purchase of Elton John tickets for Feb. 17. “I was so frustrated by the UO’s lackadaisical response that I

started an online petition to attempt to compel them to add another show to Elton’s engagement,” says Ooh-La-La.

“The intent of this petition,” says the website, “is to establish that there is adequate interest to schedule an additional Elton John concert the night before, Wednesday, Feb. 16. There are currently no events scheduled at the arena on this date, and Elton John is performing back-to-back concerts about a week before in Vancouver, B.C., indicating that he is not opposed to doing consecutive shows.”

“Let’s convince the UO brass that we want and deserve our chance to see Elton John live!”

CORRECTIONS/ CLARIFICATIONS

Regarding our cover story Dec. 9, “Freshwater Fisticuffs,” neither the McDougals nor Greg Demers nor any of their entities own any interest in Tribute Properties LLC.

ACTIVIST ALERT

- A retirement party for Lane County Commissioner Bill Dwyer is planned for 4 to 6:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 16, at Harris Hall, 125 E. 8th Ave. in Eugene. A reception will follow. RSVP to Melissa Zimmer, 682-6503.
- Oak Hill School invites all parents and community members to celebrate the annual “Posada” at 6 pm Thursday, Dec. 16, in the gymnasium. Oak Hill is at 86397 East Way Drive (next to LCC). There will be piñatas. Los esperamos con toda la familia el jueves 16 de diciembre a la tradicional “Posada.” Por favor, inviten a los que puedan. El evento es gratis y habrá tamales, ponche y no puede faltar la reina de la posada “La piñata” para los niños. For info call Armando Morales, 744-0954, ext.125.
- The nonprofit homeless support group Free People is gathering for free music, food, clothing exchange and fellowship from 11 am to 3 pm Saturday, Dec. 18, at the WOW Hall. See www.freepeopleeugene.com
- Misty River is planning a benefit concert for the Egan Warming Center

at 3:30 pm Sunday, Dec. 19, at First Christian Church, 1166 Oak St. in Eugene. Doors open at 3 pm. Tickets are \$16 advance, \$20 at the door. Advance tickets at CD World, 3215 W. 11th, and at www.mistyriverband.com

• National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day is Tuesday, Dec. 21, and among the observances in Oregon will be a free memorial gathering from 5 to 7 pm at WOW Hall in Eugene; and at 2 pm at Albany City Hall Plaza on Broadalvin St. The observance is in memory of the homeless people who have died on the streets, in abandoned properties or open places, and from illnesses or conditions directly related to homelessness.

• A new Facebook page is up regarding Civic Stadium. Keep Civic Civic can be found at <http://wkly.ws/yw> and is dedicated to “keep our historic Civic Stadium in public ownership and available to the community as a recreational facility.” Lonnie McCulloch started the page (which is independent from Save Civic Stadium) in light of the Feb. 1 deadline for bids on the property. McCulloch favors LCC buying Civic Stadium.

news BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN



PHOTO BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN

Small Town Strip Mine

Dexter’s Parvin Butte is slated to become a quarry

When loggers started clearcutting Parvin Butte 20 miles outside Eugene, leaving behind smoking burn piles, no one in the small town of Dexter was that surprised. Timber pays the bills in a lot of rural areas. But then residents discovered that Lost Creek Rock Products intended to dynamite and strip mine the butte as well, to extract more than 60 million tons of aggregate — crushed stone, sand and gravel.

There are two permits to exploit Parvin Butte’s resources. One is for logging and the other is for mining. Neighbor John Tyler worries that with two agencies, the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI), assigned the task of overseeing two different permits, things are falling through the cracks.

Tyler, a retired Air Force pilot, came to Dexter 38 years ago to raise his family. He bought a couple acres of land with a view of Lost Valley, near scenic Parvin Butte. The butte, Tyler points out on a map, is surrounded by 353 homes. He estimates that 1,100 people will be impacted by the butte’s destruction. “The other thing that’s worrisome,” he says, “is the impact on water.”

Lost Creek runs right through the 64-acre property. Eve Montanaro of the Middle Fork Watershed Council says the creek is one of their highest priorities for protection and enhancement. Lost Creek is unobstructed by dams and offers some of the last remaining habitat for spring Chinook in the Middle Fork basin. “The support to protect and enhance the Lost Creek basin by local residents is phenomenal,” Montanaro says.

The creek is on the property, but not within the 51.5 acres that are within the permit boundary of the quarry. The permit application says the quarry is two miles from Dexter. The map shows Dexter’s post office is within 1,500 yards of the quarry. According to the application there are no nearby streams that flow year round. Lost Creek is 500 feet east of the permit boundary.

The permit to mine Parvin Butte can be viewed on the website for Oregon Land Company, which lists the property as for sale. Oregon Land lists millions of dollars of land for sale, including lots earmarked for logging and the development of subdivisions along the McKenzie River as well as proposed subdivisions in Veneta.

A document on Oregon Lands’ website that analyzes the quality of rock in the

proposed quarry is in the name of Greg Demers and his ATR Land LLC. Neither Demers’ name nor that of frequent collaborators in land speculation the McDougal brothers shows up in relation to Oregon Land at first glance. But the post office box listed is the same as the McDougals’ and Demers’ other company of note: Willamette Water Company. Willamette Water has applied for a water right on the McKenzie River, claiming it wants to supply drinking water to rural communities. Lost Creek Rock Products is another of the McDougals’ and Demers’ investments.

David Schaeffer’s house is a two-minute walk from Parvin; he even trimmed his trees so he could see the butte from his upstairs window. Schaeffer says he called the McDougals’ office 10 times, maybe more, to ask them about their plans for the butte, but they never responded until the day he called “acting like I was going to get a job.” He wasn’t lying about the job. “If things get terrible,” he says, at least all he’d have to do was cross the railroad tracks that separate his house from the butte property and he’d be at work.

Tyler says the mining permit calls for a 200-foot buffer between the mining operations and the property line and permit boundary. The trees on the property have been cut right up to the neighbors’ backyards as well as up to 100 feet from the creek. After the logging took place, DOGAMI and ODF discussed exactly who regulates the removal of the trees and whether the removal constitutes logging or mining. According to an email from DOGAMI to Sen. Floyd Prozanski, “DOGAMI and ODF agreed that if the trees were logged then the logged area was replanted (in compliance with the Forest Practice Act Permit) the removal of trees in this scenario constitutes logging.” Conversely, if the trees were logged and the landowners started strip mining, “this scenario would constitute mining operations.” The agencies concluded because the trees would be replanted and mining wouldn’t take place near the creek, cutting down the trees qualified as ODF-

regulated logging, not DOGAMI-regulated mining.

“I’m probably Don Quixote, tilting at windmills,” Tyler says, “because agencies do what they do. But who is going to look out for the public good?”

Tyler and other concerned neighbors in Dexter asked for a meeting Dec. 1 to discuss the issue. Prozanski, Lane County Commissioner Faye Stewart, county staff and more than 100 neighbors attended. Lane County has determined there needs to be a site review, Stewart says. “What that will entail is them proposing what they’re going to do, being really detailed in their operation, and backing up and supporting what they’re going to do,” he explains.

“At the meeting,” Stewart says, “the land owners were basically making the statement that ‘We don’t believe under Lane Code that a site review is needed.’”

Bill Kloos, one of the attorneys for the landowners, responded to questions via email. “The owners committed at the community meeting to get any required county permits, he writes. “At the same meeting county staff Jane Burgess confirmed that the discussion about whether the code requires site review at this site is continuing, not done. The owners are working on that assumption until they hear to the contrary from the county.”

Stewart says, “They may or may not want to, but they should address issues such as noise, particulate matter, dust and traffic through this site review process.”

A site review would allow for a public comment period. Stewart says if Lost Creek Products began operating the quarry without the site review, the landowners would be ordered to cease and desist and could possibly face fines. But he points out that the two permits make it very difficult to see what is really going on — if there is road building on the site, is it for the mine or the logging?

John Tyler says, “I can’t figure out how they can get away with this.” **EW**

River: See the Dec. 9 story “Freshwater Fisticuffs” for more on the Willamette Water Company.



DeFazio Blasts Tax Deal for Wealthy

Local congressman leads revolt in House
BY ALAN PITTMAN

Who is the leader of the Democrats in Washington, D.C.? At a caucus meeting last week, it wasn't President Barack Obama.

All but one of the Democrats at the packed meeting voted for a resolution by Rep. Peter DeFazio of Springfield to oppose the president's deal with Republicans to give billions of dollars in tax breaks to the super wealthy.

Since then, DeFazio has been a hot item on cable TV and national newspaper accounts of the tax break meltdown. Before DeFazio ran off for a satellite uplink to MSNBC and a flight back to the tax cut smack-down in the nation's Capitol, we caught up with him at the shiny courthouse in Eugene and asked him what's going on. The feisty populist didn't even need a question to start his outrage over the deal rolling.

DeFazio: First thing you got to keep in mind is the price tag for this package, with the Christmas tree ornaments being added by the Senate, is almost \$900 billion. That means we'll add about \$450 billion to what are already projected to be record deficits in the coming year — all borrowed money, a lot of it borrowed from China.

We must do what is absolutely necessary and prudent and the things that are the most effective at putting people back to work and helping those who are hurt by the bad economy, like helping those whose unemployment is about to expire. But we can't afford the ornaments and some of the additional expenses that have been added now by the Democrats in the Senate but previously by the Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell when he dictated the terms of this agreement to President Obama. I'm pretty tired of being blackmailed by the minority in the Senate and having them do things that are not in the best interests of the American people and the American taxpayers.

There're a few fairly expensive additions from the Senate: \$20 billion for income over \$250,000 a year. Now remember, a lot of people got this wrong. If you earn \$500,000, you're still getting

a tax break on your first \$250,000 under the original Obama proposal he has now abandoned. So everybody, no matter how high their income, would have been getting a tax break under the Obama proposal. It's just income over \$250,000 would be taxed at the Clinton-era rates.

If you think back to the Clinton era and the tax rates of the Clinton era — which a lot of people screamed bloody murder about and no single Republican voted for — we actually had a booming economy and people were investing and not sitting on piles of cash. So it's hard to make the case that somehow this would be destructive to capital formation and the creation of jobs.

Then the two additional provisions, the continued reduction in capital gains tax and dividend tax, another \$15 billion, and then the really big ornament or perhaps the star on top of the Christmas tree is a huge reduction in estate taxes for estates over \$10 million. Remember, the whole fight over the estate tax over the years has been about small business. We don't want to destroy small business. I agree with that. The House passed a version of the estate tax which would have forgiven all estate taxes up to \$7 million and then had a graduated rate after that. Under the Senate proposal there would be no estate tax up to \$10 million per estate and then a lower rate on all estate taxes over and above that. That's another \$30 billion.

So if you just look at those four provisions, some people can make an argument that the capital gains or the dividend might produce jobs. People have been trying to make an argument that taxing upper income people at the Clinton-era rates would hurt jobs. But no one is saying that giving a tax break to estates over \$10 million is going to create a single job. That is \$65 billion borrowed, put on the tab, that we'll be paying off for the next 30 years. If they called this a stimulus bill instead of tax cuts, the Republicans would be screaming bloody murder, because we would be borrowing every penny. These things are excessive, unnecessary, help those who don't need help and are going to

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put ultimately the burden on the majority of American people.

The extension of unemployment benefits costs about half what the tax breaks cost for the upper income people. So if we wanted to not borrow money, we could extend unemployment benefits and we could just take the House version of the estate tax and part of the upper income taxes, and we would be revenue neutral. We wouldn't have borrowed the money and we would have helped those most in need.

I believe the Republicans are bluffing. I don't believe they would have gone home for Christmas fighting for tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires and told millions of Americans, whose unemployment has expired or is about to expire, "tough luck." I don't think they could have withstood the hit they would have taken. So I don't think that was any concession on their part.

There was another proposal that I find very problematic, which was for the first time we're going to violate the sanctity of the Social Security trust fund for the first time since it was created by Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the 1930s. We're going to give a payroll tax holiday, all well and good — pretty expensive, about \$67 billion dollars more to borrow next year. We give a payroll tax holiday which goes to all income levels, including members of Congress who will get over \$2,000; millionaires, billionaires will get at least \$2,000, if their spouse works they'll get \$4,000. This is a very expensive tax break, having a payroll tax holiday. It raises concerns about the future of Social Security. So they said, "Oh, don't worry, we will borrow the money from China or somewhere else."

I predict what will happen two years from now or a year from now is they'll say, "Oh my God, we can't afford to keep subsidizing Social Security and borrowing money to do it." And if Obama proposes to reinstate the full tax, they'll say, "Oh, he's increasing taxes on working people." This is a very elegant trap, I believe, set by the Republicans. They know it's fiscally irresponsible, and next year they are going to come back for the other half, which is massive reductions in programs which are important to a majority of the American people, and in all probability, box in President Obama coming up in the next election to make all these things permanent.

This is a bad deal, we could have had a better deal. That's why I offered my resolution in the House Democratic caucus. I've been in Congress 24 years. We have never ever before taken a caucus vote on an initiative of a president, particularly a president of our own party, and voted nearly unanimously in opposition. I heard one "no." There may have been people who didn't vote, but the room was packed and most people shouted "aye" and supported my resolution. We in the House believe this is a bad deal for the taxpayers. It's not targeted in a way that is going to put people back to work or help those most in need, it's going to borrow a lot of money to help those who have already done very well and do not need additional assistance, particularly with borrowed money.

EW: So if the caucus supported your resolution and in effect not the president's resolution, does that make you the top Democrat in Washington then?

DeFazio: (Chuckles) Well, you know, I could see what was happening here ... first off we're still reeling from the election. It's a confusing situation because people who were lame ducks get to vote on this and the few new members we have, nine, don't get to vote on this so there's a lot of confusion and anxiety. But there was just a tremendous amount of chatter: This is not good, why are we going along with this? Why are we letting ourselves be rolled by the Senate, and this time just be rolled by the minority leader of the Senate who unilaterally negotiated with Vice-President Biden. Biden came to the caucus, he cut the deal with Mitch McConnell while our negotiator was in another room. So this was really a dictate. We were hearing some things that, well we got some things that we really like and all these other things we really don't like, and I figure that what was going to happen was we were going to role over again. So I decided, for once, that I would force the caucus to stand up to the president and to push our own leadership to opposing the president because they have facilitated him too much in the past, particularly when he has made massive concessions to the Republicans. So it doesn't make me anything other than someone who is willing to take the initiative and lead in the caucus for a vote in the caucus to take a stand.

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EW: What was that caucus meeting like?

DeFazio: It was in the largest room available outside the floor of the House, and it was packed. It was a bit raucous. There was some cursing over on one side, I couldn't hear that. It was a bit noisy. But when I stood to offer my resolution was when this chant of "Just say no" broke out. Reporters down the hall, even with the closed door, could hear that. I asked for time to then speak to my resolution, and someone in the back yells, "Can't you hear, you've already got the votes, just move the question." So I said OK, I just move the question, and there was a huge roar of "yes," and one valiant soul said "no," supporting what she said were her beliefs that we can't do better.

EW: If the Republicans argue that if you don't do this now, we can just do it in January, why would they want to do it now?

DeFazio: These are the new fiscal conservatives. So if they are fiscal conservatives, then I would assume that if they want to reduce revenues they are going to want to match that with reductions in spending. That would be \$450 billion. We're part way through the budget year, so they would have to reduce spending over the coming months about 60 percent across the board, that includes the Pentagon. There are certainly places where we can cut and save money, but it would be an impossible task. So their first act would be to borrow an additional \$400 billion or more as fiscal conservatives, and much of the money would be borrowed from China. I think they would be putting themselves in a very difficult spot. I can't believe that that is what they would do. I think they would have to minimize the costs and meet the most essential needs.

EW: So this way they get to blame the Democrats for the deficit spending?

DeFazio: Yup. Sure, look at the Obama deficit next year, \$1.75 trillion dollars. That's what they'll talk about. They won't say, "Oh, by the way, \$450 billion of it is something that we insisted on." At least the new members can say, "We weren't even here and didn't vote on it." I think this is a very elegant trap that they are constructing, and it's going to lead to massive cuts in programs that are very important to many American families, and it's probably going to lead to the permanent imposition of these tax cuts and make the tax code less progressive.

EW: Would it have been better, as a political strategist, to do this before the election?

DeFazio: Sure, absolutely. It should have happened before the election. The pundits in the White House are saying, "Well, that was Congress's call." Well, not exactly, I don't remember the president standing up, pushing, giving a speech or hitting Congress, batting Congress around a little bit, and saying let's move on with these tax cuts now. The House had already acted substantially on this without the Social Security cuts, without the new estate tax giveaways, without the upper income. The House had already acted; it was the Senate that had failed to act and I didn't see the president push the Senate.

EW: So you think in the future that these will be permanent, that as part of the 2012 election, they'll say you're raising taxes by cutting our tax break?

DeFazio: Biden said that he could assure us that the president would not go forward. He would not approve the continuation of these tax cuts, particularly for the wealthy. If he can't do it in a non-presidential election year — after he ran on it as a candidate, after he campaigned for it two years as president and then suddenly it's a done deal, and it can't be discussed, it's take it or leave it — who can believe that he'll be able to stand up to the pressure? You're looking at, "Mr. President you're talking about the largest

It's going to borrow a lot of money to help those who have already done very well.

— Rep. Peter DeFazio

tax [increase] in the history of America by restoring the Social Security tax, by increasing the tax on estates over \$10 million, by having income over \$250,000 taxed at Clinton-era rates. You sir, are a tax and spender, you are running up the largest deficits in the history of the world in the United States of America." And he's going to stand up to that?

EW: So the *New York Times* says you don't have much leverage here. Do you think that's true, that things could improve if it was voted down now, that you might be able to have more leverage in January?

DeFazio: Oh yeah. The leverage you have in January is that you have just elected what purports to be a fiscally responsible,

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new House of Representatives with fiscal conservatives in charge. Are they going to start by reducing the income by \$450 billion for the government? They are going to be in kind of a tough spot because they can't find \$450 billion in cuts.

The most radical vision for the U.S. is basically having just a Defense Department, a Justice Department. I would assume they would include Homeland Security and some other things. They can't get there with cuts, not in one year, not in two.

EW: Do you think Republicans really care about the deficit? They ran on that.

DeFazio: They're hypocritical. They want to reduce taxes *and* deal with the deficit. So we could at least point to their hypocrisy. Then it would be they who created the largest record deficit in the history of the U.S. and the world, not the Democrat majority still governing and the Democratic president.

EW: Is this going to pass by the end of the week? Some people have said its inevitable.

DeFazio: The greatest pressure that's always exerted is, "Well, do you want to go home for Christmas or not." I would say, "Yeah, I do, but I'll stay." But there are others who will just want to get out of town. The Senate may pass the bill and leave town. That's how they've done a bunch of these things previously. We'll see, but as one, *one* out of 435, I did the

best I could by giving my leadership the tools to go back down to the White House and say, "Look, this is unprecedented, the caucus has never spoken this way before, virtually unanimous, things got to change."

EW: So why did the Democrats get the shellacking?

DeFazio: The greatest reason is the dismal economy and the huge numbers of unemployment and declining incomes which go to a huge host of issues which we failed to address meaningfully. And it will go back, as I said, to the stimulus. If we had taken a fraction of the money we had spent on tax cuts and invested it instead on infrastructure, we could have put five to six million people to work, and you would have been providing a benefit to future generations and improving the productivity of the nation. We have not dealt meaningfully with the failures of our trade policy and unfair trade by China and others.

I think people kind of looked and they didn't see that we were offering them hope of better lives for themselves and their kids with the policies and the things we'd implemented so far, perhaps with the exception of health care. But that was four years down the road. As one guy said to me during the election, "Congressman, it's really great that next time I lose my job and my health insurance, four or five years from now, I'll be able to keep my health insurance. But right now, it doesn't do me any good, does it?" **EW**

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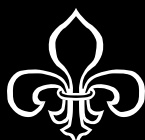
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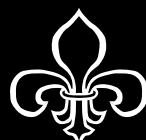
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winter READING

Technically, Winter Reading is one of *EW*'s gift guides, and to that end, we stuff it with books for a bevy of imagined readers: history buffs, fantasy-addicted teens, literature lovers, memoir junkies, comic-loving kids and music fans (though more music books will appear in next week's Procrastinator's Gift Guide). We dig up small press favorites and tuck in a few books, here and there, that the big awards noticed.

But we also read because we love to. Winter Reading gives us an extra reason to indulge, to stick our noses in novels and leave them there, making excuses for our antisocial behavior: "Can't talk. Reading. It's work!" Books go with us on trains and buses; they're propped up at the dinner table and wrapped around a steaming cup of tea at midnight. We argue, gently, about what to include and what has to get left out; we make cases for our pet genres and authors we wish more people would fall in love with. We browse the shelves at (local, independent) bookstores and find those last few tomes we just have to squeeze in. One of us, travelling during the last few days of reading time, ended up buying as an e-book a novel that she had already bought in physical form (we wonder when publishers will start to sell bundled physical, audio and e-books for those who like all forms).

In short, we're junkies, and Winter Reading is our fix. Hopefully, you'll find something here that you want to try out — or something you know a friend or family member will love. May you get happily hooked.
— Molly Templeton



DIORAMA BY THE NINJAS OF CRAFT | PHOTO BY TRASK BEDORTHA

fiction

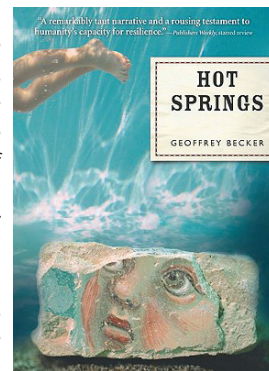
HOT SPRINGS

By Geoffrey Becker. Tin House Books, \$14.95.

If you gave up your newborn for adoption, then realized five years later that it was a mistake, the logical thing to do would be to kidnap the child back, rename her and head south, right? It is if you're Bernice Click, the sexy, persuasive and crazy character of Becker's *Hot Springs*. Problem is, Bernice doesn't know anything about how to be a mother to Emily, and her own mother was no role model. And Landis, her boyfriend of six months and partner in crime, doesn't quite know how they got into this situation but is genuinely fascinated enough by Bernice to pursue her poorly thought out plan.

Throughout the book, Becker uses the openness of the landscapes they're driving through and the urban setting where they end up to create tensions and counterpoints in an already twisted plot. The book hinges on one rather far-fetched coincidence that sets Emily's adoptive mother, Tessa, off on her own adventure to get Emily back without involving authorities. Tessa, too, struggles: with her husband's indifference, his adultery and increasingly sadistic behavior. Becker piles on the danger and desperation, and surprisingly, brilliant flashes of humor.

Bernice, Landis and Tessa aren't exactly redeemed, and everyone finds themselves in a different place in the end than they expected. But through Becker's taut storytelling, we get one possible answer to the question of how far people can stretch in the name of love. — Vanessa Salvia



PARROT AND OLIVIER IN AMERICA

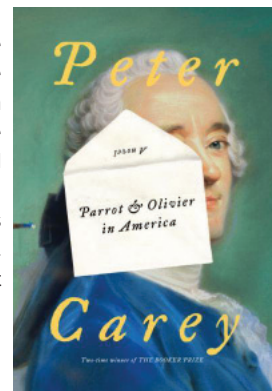
by Peter Carey. Knopf, \$26.95. FINALIST, 2010 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR FICTION.

If you're already a fan of the fabulous, two-time winner of the Booker Prize, Australian-born Peter Carey, you will not be surprised to learn his latest novel is intricate, multi-layered and peopled by puzzling characters caught up in convoluted plots. Reading it requires steadfast focus. I had to stop, re-read and catch up with the rapidly evolving story more than once.

One story opens in rural, post-Revolution France as seen by a titled youngster, Olivier, whose mother is haunted by terrible memories of guillotines and the bloody demise of her class. As political conditions worsen, Mama hires a mysterious spy to acquire a commission for her now grown son to write about American prisons for the French government.

A parallel tale introduces the observations of a 12-year-old English lad, Parrot, who travels with his indigent printer father to a suspicious household where both receive employment, room and board. With a quick intelligence, Parrot takes the dirtiest job, which involves emptying the chamber pots of an artist living in the attic, and gets a peek at the business's secret, lucrative enterprise. The French spy arrives at exactly the right moment to keep Parrot alive and on the move.

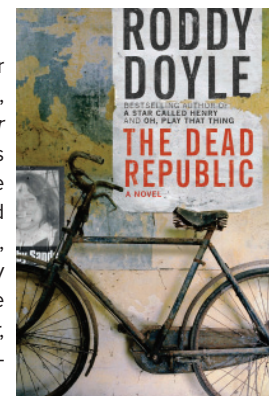
Eventually, the spy dispatches strangers Olivier and Parrot together to America, and Carey's daring, hilarious retelling of the role of Alexis de Tocqueville in early 19th century American history is fully launched. Raw, naked democracy never looked funnier. — Lois Wadsworth



THE DEAD REPUBLIC

by Roddy Doyle. Viking, \$26.95.

It's been 11 years since Irish author Roddy Doyle (*The Commitments*, *The Snapper*) released *A Star Called Henry*, the first book in his trilogy *The Last Roundup*. With the release this year of the third and final novel, *The Dead Republic*, Doyle completes the story of Henry Smart: IRA trigger man, soldier in the 1916 Easter Rising, jazz act manager, Hollywood scriptwriter and one-man Gaelic history lesson.



I read the second novel soon after its release more than six long years ago. But the subsequent gaps in my memory enhance rather than detract from my enjoyment of the third book: At its outset, Henry Smart is rattled, confused, amnesiac after a hard life that has stranded him in Utah's Monument Valley. It's no accident that, after an engaging side trip into golden age Hollywood, Smart must return to Ireland, to the sweeping historical narrative he embodies, to regain his composure and his agency.

The Smart character himself, a likable but straightforward protagonist, would never stand for such sentiment. "The thought was mad — Irish history was all about *me*," Smart muses in a moment of uncharacteristic introspection. But then, "I let go of the thought and it scurried away happily enough."

Celtic culture buffs and readers of good old-fashioned engaging fiction will be happy to gather up Doyle's mad thoughts about Irish history, and will enjoy the capstone work of his magnum opus. — *Aaron Ragan-Fore*

A VISIT FROM THE GOON SQUAD

by Jennifer Egan. Knopf, \$25.95. A *NEW YORK TIMES* TOP 10 BOOK OF 2010.

In her latest novel, *A Visit from the Goon Squad*, Jennifer Egan commits a brilliant sleight-of-hand: Everything goes down nice and easy, like a gossip pot-boiler about the sexy, glitzy, greedy and needy connections among a vast cast of variously dysfunctional people orbiting around the New York music scene. It isn't until you set the book down that you realize that Egan, with her fluid, conversational prose, has somehow woven an intricate, far-flung web of fate and circumstance that is as deep, layered and wildly fucked up as one of Faulkner's fictional family trees. The cumulative effect is surprisingly powerful. Enacting the literary equivalent of the butterfly effect, the individual episodes of *Goon Squad* — moving back and forth across time, and casting a wide generational net — show how a single choice by a single person can reverberate and ripple outward with unintended consequences down the line.



If the book could be said to have a central character, it's Bennie Salazar, a failed musician turned music producer with a golden ear. But, really, Egan's novel, a postmodern pop opera, isn't so much about centers as circles, and how the aura of influence of each character's life — from Salazar's klepto personal assistant Sasha, to his lovers and wives and children and clients, to his high school friend turned homeless fisherman — intersects in secret, subtle ways. There is gravity in every situation, Egan suggests, and a seemingly insignificant gesture might wreck you in a decade's time.

In this magical novel, the degrees of separation, whether six or 16, are immediately visible and infinitely, intimately important. — *Rick Levin*

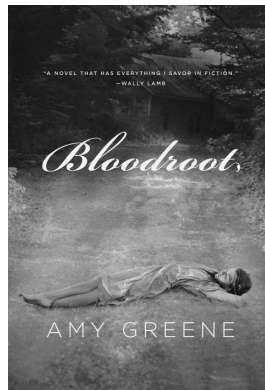
BLOODROOT

By Amy Greene. Knopf, \$24.95.

The women of the family at the center of Amy Greene's *Bloodroot* lived on Bloodroot Mountain for generations, and were known to have an ability to cure people and animals and commune with nature in mysterious ways. They had "the touch," the same touch that seemed to draw only the worst kind of men to them.

In alternating narratives we come to know Myra and her kin: Byrdie, Myra's granny, her rock; Clio, the only one of Byrdie's children to survive; Myra, Clio's only child; John, Myra's husband, a man who wanted to be good but instead turned out sickeningly bad. Their twins are called Johnny and Laura, but they might as well be known as Fern and Moss for as much as the wildness of Bloodroot Mountain runs through their veins. Laura and Johnny knew nothing of their daddy except that Myra kept his ring finger in a box under her bed. They could get by not knowing any part of the world off Bloodroot Mountain as long as they had each other, but when Myra changed and withdrew her love from them, their fragile world shattered.

Greene imbues each sentence with an emotional depth and poignancy that brings these characters to stark life. Tracing the shadows of their lives, we see all of them bound



together but flung apart by the waves of other people's choices wrought upon them. — *Vanessa Salvia*

THE REPORT

by Jessica Francis Kane. Graywolf Press, \$16.

This slim volume, published in paperback by a small but prestigious publishing house, deserves some sort of award sticker on its cover. I hereby designate it Suzi's Favorite Fiction Book of 2010.

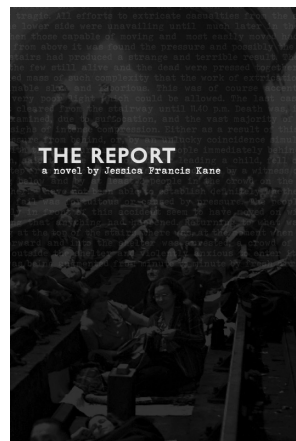
Plot description doesn't begin to cover the depth, complexity, careful touch and emotional wallop of this book, nominally about a 1943 night when Londoners died by the dozens in an air raid shelter — when there wasn't even a raid. A parallel story takes place 30 years later, when the son of one of the survivors tries to interview a judge about his opinion on the case. The 1973 storyline provides chilling reminders of the war's damage and resulting emotional chaos beneath the calm British exterior, years and years of pain, with years and years of stiff upper lips only now starting to tremble.


Kane takes a true story (the deaths at the Bethnal Green tube stop) and weaves her fiction around it, but the truths of the book lie deeper than most nonfiction could hope to burrow. *The Report* takes a small tragedy and shows, in its careful, patient character-building, exactly how that tragedy ties to the larger war of the time and the emotional and physical wars humans fight every day. Beautiful, moving, elegant and thoughtful, *The Report* is fully rounded account of human weaknesses and strengths in an improbably small volume about an small event whose ripples still spread. — *Suzi Steffen*

GOLD BOY, EMERALD GIRL

by Yiyun Li. Random House, \$26.

The stories in this packed little hardback might seem familiar if, say, you read *The New Yorker* (as short story buyers sometimes do), or if you've read many short stories from Iowa






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Writers Workshop grads. That's not to say they're in any way bad; the stories simply feel like familiar furniture in a house across the world.

Li (*The Vagrants*)'s stories brim with longing, endless frustrated desire, decisions that seem to stem at once from Bartleby's refusal and T.S. Eliot's narrators (I think of "Ash Wednesday" in particular when I read these kinds of stories: "Because I cannot drink / there, where trees flower, and springs flow"), people who never connect. They're set in contemporary China, often Beijing or Shanghai, where for a variety of reasons, narrators live with complex secrets and losses.

A couple of the stories contain gentle humor, especially "The Proprietress" and "House Fire," whose themes reflect generational gaps and concerns along with the difference between what we think we know and what we actually do know about our friends, not to mention our children or our parents. Not only can some of the narrators not connect with parents; they can't really connect with anyone, in some cases because it wouldn't be safe thanks to politics. In stories like the opening novella, "Kindness," the value of private space triumphs over even the best intentions of others, whose interest comes to the narrator to feel like a brutal invasion. Both "Kindness" and the titular closing story, which was showcased in *The New Yorker's* 20 Under 40 issue, reflect the author's empathy and generosity of a sort toward people whose very selves can't be expressed in their society, a true don't ask, don't tell arena for her characters.

The tales repeatedly feature narrators stymied, stopped and frustrated by themselves, lacking understanding, living through suffering with few options and tentatively dealing with life. But the lyrical writing — another Iowa hallmark — shows the power of memories, momentary glimpses of joy, burnished and cradled, shining amid the bleakness of life. — *Suzi Steffen*

I CURSE THE RIVER OF TIME

By Per Petterson. Graywolf Press, \$23. A *NEW YORK TIMES* NOTABLE BOOK OF 2010. WINNER OF THE 2009 NORDIC COUNCIL LITERATURE PRIZE.

It's 1989, the Berlin Wall is coming down, communism is losing its power in Europe and we follow Arvid Jansen's life for a few cold days while he ponders, in a gray, liminal sort of way, his incipient divorce and the divide between himself

and his dying mother. His mother has been diagnosed with stomach cancer and has left Norway to spend time in her hometown in Denmark. Arvid physically accompanies her while he mentally travels in time to his idealistic youth as a Communist Party member, an idealism that led him to give up the university studies his mother wanted for him, to become a factory worker.

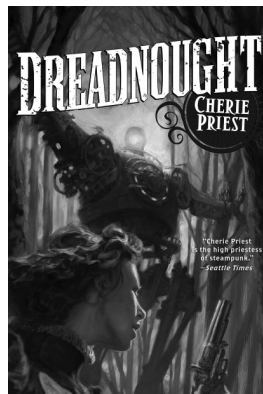
Arvid is hapless and fumbles his way through life and his relationship with wife, children and his mother, who says of him, "He's thirty-seven years old, but I wouldn't call him a grown up. That would be an exaggeration." Charlotte Barslund's clean translation from the Norwegian captures the language's nuances, and the book epitomizes the Scandinavian tendency to see humor in the blackest of situations. — *Camilla Mortensen*

DREADNOUGHT

by Cherie Priest. Tor, \$14.99.

When *Dreadnought*, the latest novel set in Cherie Priest's alternate-history universe, *The Clockwork Century*, opens, nurse Mercy Lynch is up to her elbows in dirty pillowcases, trying to find a watch a patient has misplaced. Mercy is about to get two difficult pieces of news, the combination of which will send her all the way across the country in the middle of the dragging-on Civil War. But there's a reason Priest introduces her heroine in the middle of a task that has her equal parts exasperated, sympathetic and determined to do the right thing, even when it gets her hands dirty: Those qualities will sustain the young nurse when her journey from Virginia to Tacoma ventures into strange, threatening territory.

Dreadnought is a cousin to Priest's 2009 *Boneshaker*, and like that novel, takes its name from a beastly machine — in this case, the heavily armored, intimidating-as-hell Union engine that's powering the only train headed Mercy's direction. From dirigible to river ship (where she meets a tight-lipped Texas ranger who seems destined to become a Sam Elliott character in a film adaptation) to *Dreadnought*, Mercy's trip is



endlessly and peculiarly complicated, but the practical, clever nurse's perspective stands in cheery contrast against scary diseases and secretive soldiers. Readers of *Boneshaker* will have an earlier idea about some of this book's secrets and twists, but that's neither advantage nor spoiler. Like an engine slowly picking up speed, *Dreadnought* starts slowly but gathers momentum as Mercy, capable and impatient, works out what's going on the train, whom she can trust and what she'll have to do to get herself home. — *Molly Templeton*

SUPER SAD TRUE LOVE STORY

by Gary Shteyngart. Random House, \$26. A *NEW YORK TIMES* NOTABLE BOOK OF 2010.

From J. Swift to K. Vonnegut, satire has been largely a humanist affair, even when the work in question — most famously, *Gulliver's Travels* — borders on the literary emetics of misanthropy. Morally repulsed, righteously outraged and with a sharp eye for life's profound absurdities, the satirist inflates the world into a vulgar cartoon of itself, all puffed up with the helium of hypocrisy and animated by myopic self-interests.

Gary Shteyngart, author the 2006 critical hit *Absurdistan*, is a satirist through and through. But, unlike most of his predecessors, his work is less angry and corrective than apocalyptic and elegiac. In his latest, *Super Sad True Love Story*, Shteyngart takes aim at what can only be called a post-human, post-literate world. Set amidst the ghettoized horrors of a deracinated, deranged and globally insolvent New York, the author depicts a society where people are so disconnected by their iPhone-like "apparati" that the vestigial act of talking is called "verballing." Dignity, in Shteyngart's universe, is but memory, a museum piece, and in its place every animal desire is laid bare (the graphic details of any stranger's sexual history can be had simply by pointing an *apparat* at them).

Dually narrated by Lenny Abramov — an obese, death-obsessed, 39-year-old Jewish corporate shill pedaling eternal life to "High Net Worth Individuals" — and his young, anorexic Korean-American girlfriend Eunice (or, as she's known in the



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BLACKOUT and **ALL CLEAR** by Connie Willis. Spectra, \$26.

THE INVISIBLE BRIDGE by Julie Orringer. Knopf, \$26.95.
A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF 2010.

NO ORDINARY JOES by Larry Colton. Crown, \$26.

WWII serves as a seemingly endless source of inspiration for writers; though hundreds of books come out each year, many stories still haven't been told — or need to be told in a new way as the 21st century gets under way in earnest and more and more veterans and civilians die.

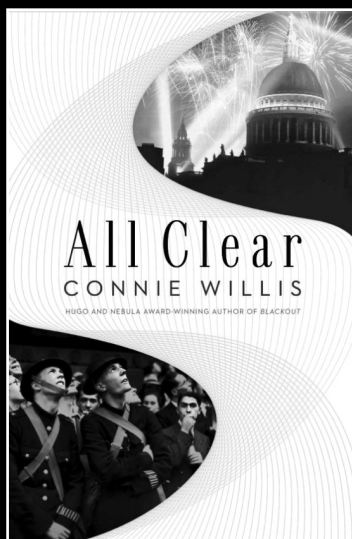
Connie Willis' directly linked pair of time-travel books was meant to be one much shorter work, but once she started doing research on the Blitz in London, all bets were off. As in her previous *Doomsday Book*, *To Say Nothing of the Dog* and "Firewatch," Willis uses the foil of historians time-travelling from 2060 to address much larger issues. Questions of free will, predestination, observation and the "great man" theory of history intersect with a mostly, and counterintuitively, ripping yarn about life in London for everyone from shopgirls to actors, nurses to volunteer firefighters who kept St. Paul's Cathedral from burning. The characters — Polly Churchill, Colin Templer, Merope Ward, Michael Davies and James Dunworthy, along with a few others whose actual identities become clear in *All Clear* — must deal with obstacle after obstacle, including both the disasters of 1940-1941 and massive glitches in 2060 Oxford. Though things end a bit too neatly and in some ways romantically, the extended portrayal of life in Blitz-era London vividly portrays a nation and a city struggling to make it through a now unimaginably horrid time.

Like Willis, Julie Orringer (*How to Breathe Underwater*, a short-story collection published in 2003) returns readers to Europe during the war with *The Invisible Bridge*. But this tale, based on her grandfather's experience, features a Hungarian Jewish family and the fate of Hungarian Jews in general. The novel, which some have described as either too long or too full of description (like Emily Barton's *Brookland*, *Invisible Bridge* does contain an abundance of exact, researched description), begins in 1937 as young Andras Lévi leaves Budapest for architecture school in Paris. His older brother will soon leave to study medicine in Italy — both of them having to exit Hungary, where Jews are given fewer opportunities — and his younger brother's both an artist and a performer. The tale focuses so closely on Andras' time in Paris that the abrupt switch to Hungarian labor camps leaves the reader, like Andras, desperate for the pre-war joys. But beyond telling the heartbreaking story of Hungarian Jews, whose destiny the reader may think she knows, the novel shows what was lost during the brutal

days to follow — beauty, fellowship, faith, community, romance and any excuse to think that Jews didn't need a homeland. War wrecks every aspect of ordinary life, every pleasure, everything that's good, and while some of the cracks heal, Orringer's book makes clear how much was torn apart by the violent convulsions of power-mad racist, sexist, homophobic, anti-Semitic leaders and their disgusting schemes.

In Portland author Larry Colton's nonfiction *No Ordinary Joes*, the tale of four submariners captured by Japan and kept in POW camps for years, readers will see a less salutary image of survivors. The four men featured in Colton's book — Bob Palmer, Chuck Vervalin, Tim McCoy and Gordy Cox — lived hard lives as young men before the war, and their time after being rescued from Japan contains countless stories of rage, alcoholism, virulent racism and, as Colton mentions in his author's note, a shocking amount of unreconstructed sexism. What they survived was unimaginable, but they didn't emerge annealed or forged or anything but deeply flawed men whose wives, sons and daughters suffered mightily. In short, though Colton certainly didn't set out to do this, his book undermines the incessant Brokaw/Hanks drumbeat about "the Greatest Generation" and places the ordinary seamen right where they belong with a full historical reckoning.

— Suzi Steffen



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digital ether, “Euni-Tard”), this story of star-crossed lovers is shadowed and finally overwhelmed by the total collapse of the U.S. economy — a “Rupture” that follows a violent revolt by gangs of Low Net Worth Individuals.

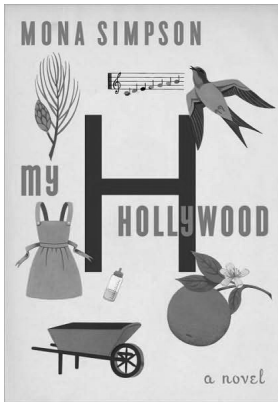
Like the best writers of dystopic science fiction, Shteyngart creates a fearsomely fucked-up future that is actually just a funhouse reflection of right here, right now. Occasionally the piling up of clever acronyms and wild inventions can be off-putting, but there’s no denying Shteyngart’s substantial talent for skewering corporate-consumerist society gone haywire, nor his ability to wrench your heart with a single line, as when Lenny laments the “cheap, ephemeral world where everyone lets everyone down as a matter of course.” Super true, super sad. — *Rick Levin*

MY HOLLYWOOD

by Mona Simpson. Knopf, \$26.95.

Reviews of this lengthy, slow-paced but somehow still riveting book have focused on two things: its length and what it has to say about gender and class. Claire, protagonist and composer, struggles to balance her new baby and her music while husband Paul works like mad as a comedy writer for a TV show; those scenes paint a bleak, hard-to-read portrait of imbalances in expectations that might strike a solid fear of parenting into any woman who wants a career. Of course, the book *is* set in the late 1990s, and there *is* a solution for Claire’s dilemma, or a partial solution: a nanny!

Half of Simpson’s book, which someone blurbed as a satire when it’s anything but, focuses on the nanny Claire finds. Lola, like many of the nannies in Santa Monica at the time, is Filipina and has several children of her own, living with her husband in Tagaytay, but she hasn’t seen them for a while. She provides care for baby William and some care for Claire as well. Simpson shows Lola’s network of friends who are also nannies, mostly Filipina and working hard both to keep their kids safe and to provide childcare that meets their standards



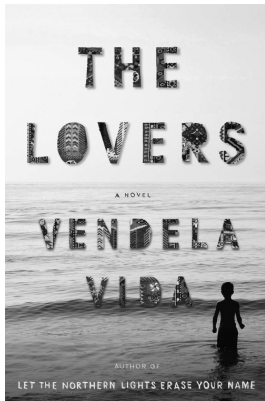
and the standards of the parents. Readers will sympathize with the nannies in the Lola portions and the trying-to-work mom in the Claire portions (though those who have jobs outside of the creative industries may wonder why Claire needs so many lattes, walks or time away from her actual *job* of composing).

Simpson shows Claire’s tentative, abortive efforts at understanding how to parent in a world of what would now be called soccer moms, those wealthy women who seem to have it all together and can get their hair done while having their perfect little darlings create handspun ox felt for holiday presents; she shows Lola’s tenuous state as a hot commodity with a shelf life dependent entirely on the whims of the gossiping suburban moms and dads; she shows the struggles of Lola and Claire to relate to each other. The ambiguous connection never gets truly resolved, for what friendship or connection *can* form between employer and employee, between the powerful who don’t know their power and those who work for them? — *Suzi Steffen*

THE LOVERS

by Vendela Vida. Ecco, \$23.99.

As in her chilly, distant yet affecting *Let the Northern Lights Erase Your Name* — and in her first novel, *And Now You Can Go* — with *The Lovers*, novelist Vendela Vida sends a lonely, wounded woman to a place far from home. Fiftyish Yvonne, recently widowed, has gone to Turkey to revisit the place she spent her honeymoon, 28 years ago. She plans to relax, to remember and then to meet up with her grown children. But the place isn’t quite like she expects, and the wife of the man from whom she rents a house is prone to turning up disconcertingly on the doorstep. In a nearby harbor, Yvonne befriends a young boy, Ahmet, from whom she buys seashells. Ahmet hardly speaks English, and Yvonne doesn’t speak Turkish; though Yvonne thinks she’s connecting with the boy, and the place, she’s still isolated and grieving, and her every relationship is another facet through which she views her distant family and unresolved pain.



Vida’s novels are often described as “lean” or “austere”; her writing is crisp, her sentences spare, pared back to the necessities. Grief threads through Yvonne’s every movement, but Vida locates her ache in old memories, in the divide between mother and daughter and the way Yvonne describes her own skills: keeping conversation moving, not standing out. This quiet teacher is nothing like the young woman she once was, who went to meet a strange, postcard-writing young man in a grotto in Italy. *The Lovers* is purposefully distant and surprisingly present at once — an uncomfortable, alluring contradiction, gracefully explored in Vida’s terse, vibrant prose. — *Molly Templeton*

HOW TO LIVE SAFELY IN A SCIENCE FICTIONAL UNIVERSE

by Charles Yu. Pantheon, \$24. A *NEW YORK TIMES* NOTABLE BOOK OF 2010.

Charles Yu is a time travel repairman in Minor Universe 31, “a smallish universe, slightly below average in size.” In his tiny time machine, the TM-31, Yu answers the calls of time travelers who’ve screwed up and tried to change the past. Never mind that every time travel story (certain episodes of *Doctor Who* notwithstanding) insists that we can’t change what happened. People still want to try.

Charles Yu is also the author of *How to Live Safely in a Science Fictional Universe*, which is both a small, silvery hardback that exists in our universe and a small, silvery book that Charles, the character, gives himself when he shoots himself in the stomach. This is not what you’re supposed to do when you meet your future self, but it’s what Charles, panicking, does, and it sends him into a time loop, exploring a piece of his life over and over again. How many times has he already been in the loop? Why has his mother chosen to be in an even shorter loop, endlessly cooking dinner? And where did Charles’ father, a frustrated inventor, go, many years ago?

How to Live Safely in a Science Fictional Universe is wrapped in layers of itself, a multi-planed story that uses



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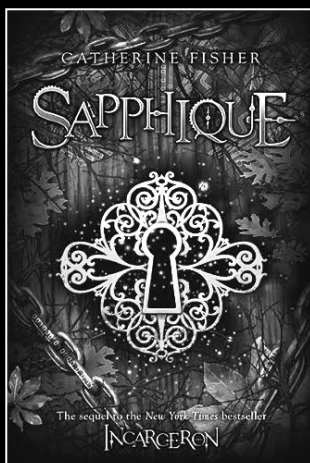
INCARCERON and SAPPHIQUE

by Catherine Fisher. Dial, \$17.99.

Fans of Catherine Fisher's *Incarceron*, which racked up starred reviews earlier this year from just about everywhere that reviews young adult fiction, didn't have to wait long for the book's sequel, which sneaks in just at the year's end (it's officially out Dec. 28). Like *Incarceron*, *Sapphique* takes place both in the sentient prison that gave the first book its name — a giant, ever-changing, seemingly boundless place that bears some resemblance to the arenas of Suzanne Collins' *Hunger Games* series in scope — and in the Realm, a world held captive by a Protocol that demands its residents hew to the rules of a bygone era. Technology is banned, but technology runs *Incarceron*.

In this complicated, often false world, two young people fight to free others from the prison, and to restore honesty to their own lives: Claudia, daughter of the Warden of *Incarceron*, who has ventured back into the prison, and Finn, who spent years in the prison and may or may not be the Realm's long-lost prince.

Inventive, smartly structured and already headed for a big screen near you, Fisher's novels use breathless plot to explore identity, compromise and the nature of reality — big questions in a shiny, engrossing package. — *Molly Templeton*



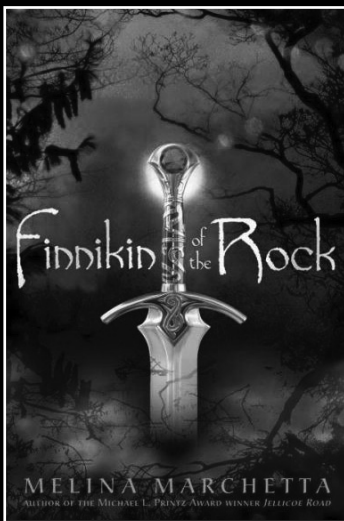
BUTTERFLY

by Sonya Hartnett. Candlewick, \$16.99.

This YA/adult horror book masquerading as a coming-of-age story hits at the heart of family and friendship. Thirteen-year-old Plum Coyle lives a self-centered life, just like most people her age, and her point of view carries through most of the book, from the painful opening scene to the pitch-perfect and *Cat's Eye*-level alarming scenes with her group of so-called friends. She badly needs an adult to talk to, but as it turns out, adults have secrets of their own, some of which threaten her family and their tentative, isolated filaments of connection. Occasional wrong notes (each character turns omniscient at odd times) and a claustrophobic, deliberately mysterious final scene don't mar the overall feel of the horrors of adolescence and the threat of grown-up life. — *Suzi Steffen*

FINNIKIN OF THE ROCK

by Melina Marchetta. Candlewick, \$18.99.



With the fantastic, heartbreaking *Finnikin of the Rock*, Melina Marchetta makes a sharp turn away from the realistic fiction of her last novel, the Printz Medal-winning *Jellicoe Road*. Some things don't change: Marchetta creates complex, passionate, flawed characters whose relationships to one another tie into their strong sense of place — in this case, the place is the imaginary land of Lumatere, one of the smallest kingdoms in the larger island world of Skuldenore. Ten years ago, Lumatere was torn apart by betrayal and locked away from the rest of the world by a blood curse. Exiles live in camps throughout Skuldenore's other kingdoms — some in terrible conditions. Finnikin, who as a child played with Lumatere's young prince, Balthazar, roams the land with his mentor, Sir Topher, hoping for some sign of Balthazar, or of his father, Lumatere's captain of the guard. When

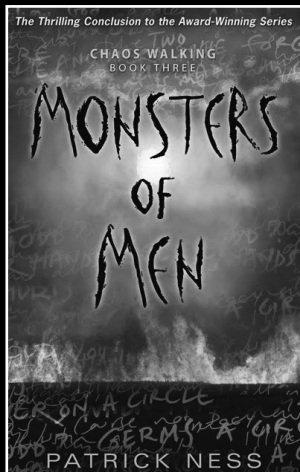
a dream sends him to a distant cloister, Finn meets a young woman, Evanjalín, who's quite clearly not what she seems. Silent, fierce, smart and manipulative, Evanjalín has her own agenda. How it lines up with and changes Finn's hopes and dreams, and how they both connect to the future of Lumatere, is carefully spun out in Marchetta's sometimes wrenching, sometimes romantic high fantasy, which has its footing firmly in very real ideas about power, home, displacement and connection. — *Molly Templeton*

MONSTERS OF MEN

by Patrick Ness. Candlewick, \$18.99.

In this third book in the *Chaos Walking* trilogy, we're back with Todd and Viola, at last. Will they survive? Will the Spackle rebel and get back at those who massacred them? Will the Mayor reveal himself and his plans? Because we *know* he has them. And guess what? There's a third point of view in this book, somewhat like the extra complexity that enters Jonathan Stroud's *Bartimaeus* trilogy in its final volume.

By the time they get to *Monsters*, readers have already dealt with two tomes of perpetual present tense, which turns annoyingly frantic with Ness' neck-breaking plot pace. The book shares with other fantasy trilogies (most famously, *Lord of the Rings*) an issue around endings — it has, to put it mildly, several — but for young readers, the *actual* ending may be more satisfying than it was for this adult, who rolled her eyes at lost opportunities. — *Suzi Steffen*



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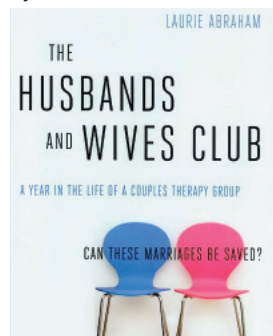
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the technical language of true science fiction to explore the everyday processes of regret, longing, grief and understanding. Yu's "chronodiegetical technology" is carefully described; his operating system, TAMMY, has a personality and seems to have a heart; Charles swears by sci-fi writers of the present ("Holy Mother of Ursula K. Le Guin."). Within his science fictional universe, Yu has found a new way to describe the mysterious ways reliving the past, in our memories, does absolutely nothing to change the present — until maybe, one day, it does. We're all time travel machines, in Yu's gorgeously structured metaphor. We're all capable of changing the past, in the future. — Molly Templeton

nonfiction

THE HUSBANDS AND WIVES CLUB: A Year in the Life of a Couples Therapy Group

by Laurie Abraham. Touchstone, \$25.



Threats of divorce! Fellatio! Sexual orientation! Shit your bitter parents dumped onto you! *The Husbands and Wives Club* is set up to read like a Jerry Springer episode. In fact, it has all the drama and suspense of a trashy novel in nonfiction format.

For a year, author Laurie Abraham sat in with five couples as they dissected their pain, with the ultimate goal of rescuing their marriages. Through Abraham's eyes, we commune with these couples as they wrestle with their long-hidden resentments and unmet desires.

"Despair is a great motivator," notes Philadelphia therapist Judith Coché, who pulls from established and debatable marriage therapies to help these couples one weekend a month, at a cost of \$6,000 for the year. Midway through sessions that include watching movies about sexual technique and acting out scenes of painful family arguments, one spouse reveals that he questions his sexuality. Marie craves physical intimacy her husband seems incapable of providing. Aaron treats his wife like his mother, then throws tantrums to reassert himself.

Whether the marriages are saved or not is never answered. Some of the couples have been cocooned in their habits for too long to change — one is wrapping up a decade with Coché during the year Abraham spends with the group. But through the journey of these couples, we can learn almost as much about ourselves as they do, without the hefty price tag. — Vanessa Salvia

EXTRA LIVES: Why Video Games Matter

by Tom Bissell. Pantheon, \$22.95.



Anyone who needs proof that video games matter need only seek out an Internet café in some of the desolate, far away places of the globe. I've found gamers hunched around terminals playing the latest iteration of Counter-Strike in back-alley apartment blocks in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia; antsy pre-teens hogging a guesthouse's handful of computers playing Unreal Tournament in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam; and seriously addicted twentysomethings paying an absurd amount of cash to play World of Warcraft all day in New Zealand.

But computer gamers are cheap and ubiquitous; it's much harder to make the case for expensive consoles like Xbox 360 or Playstation 3. Enter journalist, Portland State instructor and self-confessed video game addict Tom Bissell, scribe of the travelogues *Chasing the Sea* and *The Father of All Things*. In *Extra Lives*, Bissell charts a *gran turismo* through the popular titles of the past eight years ("a golden age of video games," Bissell claims). He analyzes Fallout 3, Grand Theft Auto IV, Far Cry 2 and LittleBigPlanet, among others, often praising the gameplay but damning the banal dialogue. In the meatier sections, Bissell probes the minds of the game designers (mostly white males, drably outfitted and driving beefed-up Beemers) writing the code behind these groundbreaking titles.

With a scrutinizing eye, Bissell searches for meaning within all the simulated carnage and explicit role-playing, coming up with mixed results. On the one hand, video games can turn narrative into an "active experience," as opposed to, say, movies; but on the other, games immerse the player in a virtual world, detached from reality. On whether this is

a good thing, Bissell writes, "I am not so sure" — hardly an enthusiastic cheer for the supposedly dominant art form of our time. — Chuck Adams

THE ROUTES OF MAN: How Roads are Changing the World and the Way We Live Today

by Ted Conover. Knopf, \$26.95.

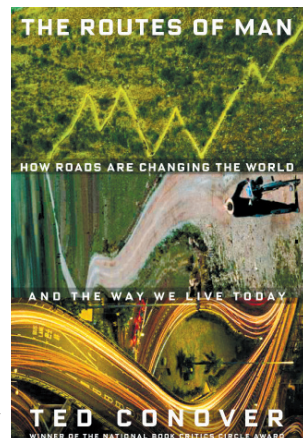
Writer Ted Conover is a man who loves traveling. One could call him an "adventure journalist," but he isn't the sort of guy who writes about BASE jumping or kiteboarding. Conover's adventures are the type of quests that even the poorest of our species can (and sometimes must) accept.

In his first two books, readers traveled alongside Conover as he crossed the border with illegal immigrants (*Coyotes*) and rode the rails with boxcar hobos (*Rolling Nowhere*). In *The Routes of Man*, Conover's fifth nonfiction treatise, the author combines five long-form essays on the nature and purpose of roads.

"It is reminiscent of a fading romance in American life, their crush on the automobile, the thrill of car ownership," Conover writes of newly minted nouveau riche drivers in Beijing, "and to witness it is to feel both nostalgia and the excitement of the new at the same time."

The same can be said of Conover's Tom Wolfe-brand of immersion journalism. From transporting illegal mahogany from the jungles of Peru to braving Israeli checkpoints in the disputed West Bank to marking the spread of AIDS among Kenyan long-haul drivers, Conover is an erudite and personable first-person narrator.

If the work has a flaw, it is that Conover seems hesitant to draw conclusions or impart lessons gleaned from the landscapes he has viewed through mud-spattered windshields, the springs he has felt through passenger-side truck seats. All the same, Conover's odyssey compellingly combines history, politics, world culture and sociology. — Aaron Ragan-Fore



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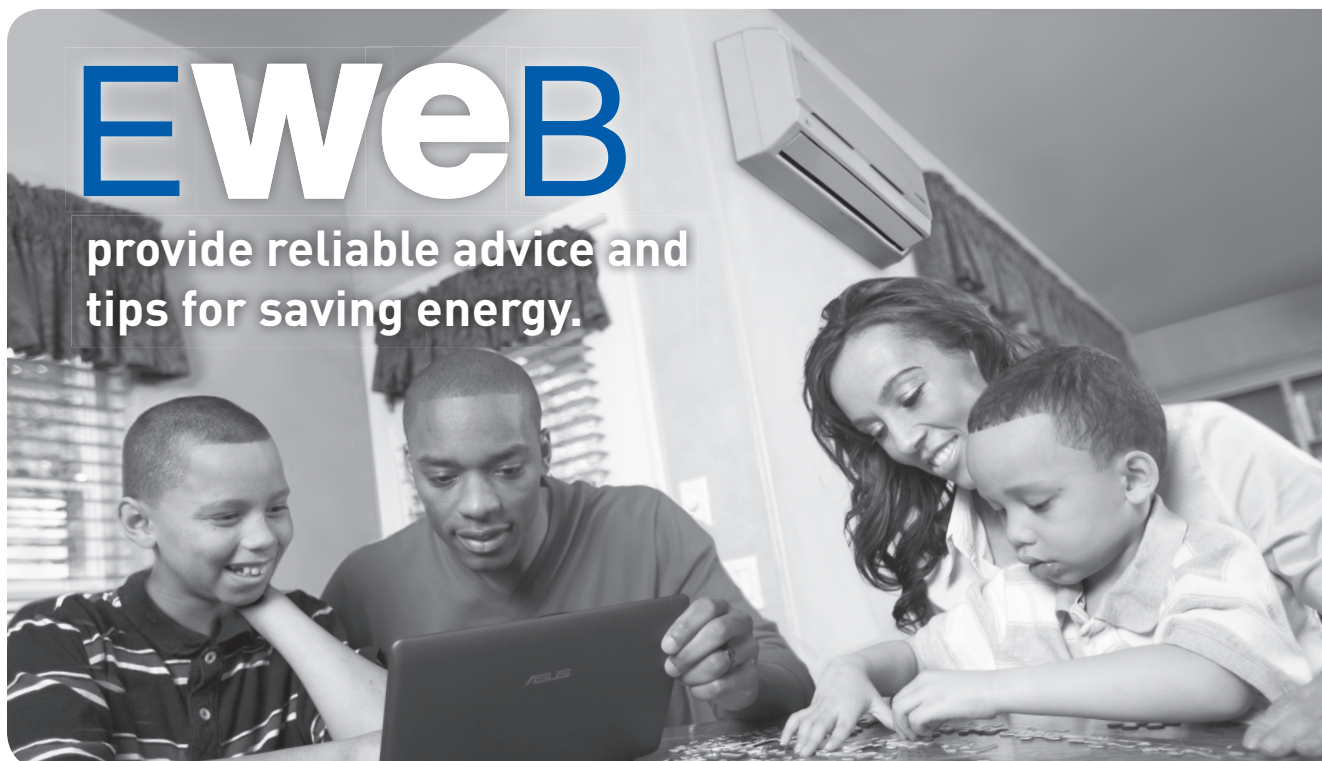
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CLIMATE WARS: The Fight for Survival as the World Overheats

by Gwynne Dyer. OneWorld, \$24.95.

Human-caused climate change is moving faster than you think. Changing light bulbs and driving less is not enough. We're just about past the point of global warming no-return, and we need geo-engineering to get us back. Climate change will lead to mass starvation, mass population movement and war. Here's the scenario author and journalist Dyer gives for Northern India circa 2036: "The surviving monkeys still play amid the ruins of the Taj Mahal. They come out of habit even though there are no longer any tourists leaving food around. Even if there were much left worth seeing on the site, the radiation levels are still too high."

If you were looking for a happy eco-oriented read for the holidays, *Climate Wars* is not the way to go. If you want to get caught up on the doomsday take on the geopolitical and strategic consequences of global warming, Dyer's your man. — Camilla Mortensen

UNBROKEN: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption

by Laura Hillenbrand. Random House, \$27.

In a sense, the title to Hillenbrand (*Seabiscuit*)'s second book hits not only a misleading but an outright mendacious tone. Its hero, Louis Zamperini, was a famous runner who probably would have been the first man to break the 4-minute mark for the mile ... if not for the intervention of WWII. His time as a POW in Japan nearly killed him and ruined his track career, so in that sense he emerged from the hell that was the war in the Pacific broken and harmed.

But Zamperini, who came from a poor Italian family in Torrance, Calif., and who ran for USC, doesn't completely break. Like many WWII veterans — like many veterans in general, like many survivors of traumatic stress in general — he does drink enough to ruin his life for a while afterward. But Hillenbrand, in another gorgeously crafted and meticulously researched book about a speedy athlete, recreates not only

the deep horrors of the camps (including a specific Japanese man, Mitsuhiro Watanabe, who tortured many POWs and Zamperini in particular) but also the glories of Zamperini's early athletic accomplishments, the life adrift on a raft after his plane crashed in May of 1943 — and his path to recovery after the war.

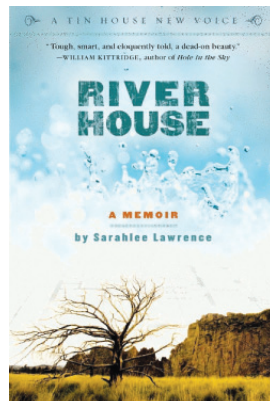
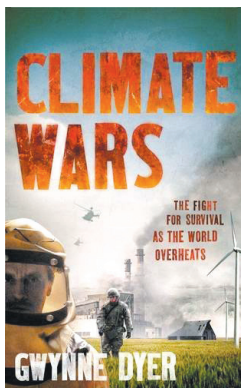
The book quietly and without emphasizing the question presents a moral dilemma for U.S. lefties. Orders had come down to kill all of the POWs if it appeared that Japan would lose the war, and the date for them to be murdered (for those who hadn't already been killed by the less-than-starvation rations, the corruption and brutality of guards and the forced labor system) fell in late August 1945. Hillenbrand never argues that the U.S. knew that or dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima (Aug. 6) and Nagasaki (Aug. 9) to ensure that the POWs lived, but readers know what's going to happen. As with many books about WWII, this painful but beautiful book leaves readers in awe of what humans can do, and with questions about why. — Suzi Steffen

RIVER HOUSE: A Memoir

by Sarahlee Lawrence. Tin House Books, \$16.95.

River House, set in central Oregon, is a simultaneous tribute to both the harsh beauty of an arid landscape and the freedom of rivers and oceans. Sarahlee Lawrence is at her best when she describes the land and water and their pull on her and her family. "From my house now a sea of juniper trees unfurl in every direction ... The needles of the juniper are actually tiny scales, scratchy to the touch. Each scale has a small gland on its back where a bead of resin seals the pore to conserve moisture. The tree seems to perfectly adapted to the high desert. Some people say it's too adapted, even invasive."

Lawrence writes honestly of a year that begins when she's only 21 — so honestly that, from time to time, she's frustrating. She travels the world whitewater rafting dangerous and exotic rivers, and admits she doesn't always appreciate what she has.



An epiphany in South America returns to her Oregon home with sketches of a hand-built log home in hand, and a hope to build her relationship with her father, a lover of oceans who feels trapped in the high desert. As she and her father build her log house by hand, the longing and need for water tear and the land, and at her family. — Camilla Mortensen

GIRLS TO THE FRONT: The True Story of the Riot Grrrl Revolution

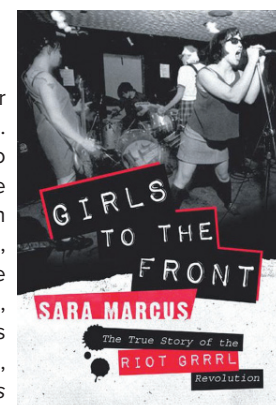
by Sara Marcus.

HarperPerennial, \$14.99.

I missed out on riot grrrl — or at least I always felt like I did. In 1989, when the women who would form Bratmobile were meeting at the UO, I was half an hour away at Elmira High School, unhappy and unaware. By the time I got out of Elmira, in 1993, riot grrrl had — as Sara Marcus describes in her absorbing, moving and compassionate *Girls to the Front* — been through highs and lows, been noted and mocked by the mainstream, and begun to twist around on itself. Those who'd started the punk rock, feminist movement had turned skeptical, but young women were still picking up zines, buying Bikini Kill's record or starting bands, inspired by the seemingly fearless women who had spent the previous years changing the face of youth culture.

I was never totally clear what riot grrrl was — but maybe, it turns out, neither was it. And maybe that was OK. Riot grrrl was a handful of bands; it was women writing zines; it was small groups meeting to talk about their experiences in a sexist culture, and to locate and transform their anger. It was young women looking out for each other and reclaiming space in the boys' club of punk rock. It was taking a stand and spreading the word, breaking out of boxes and holding out a hand to the next girl in line.

In *Girls to the Front*, Marcus — whose moving author's note is called "I Was Going to Be One of Them" — paints a striking picture of the era that birthed riot grrrl and an honest, flawed portrait of the messy, empowering thing that resulted. It's difficult to pick pieces of Marcus' narrative to use to sum



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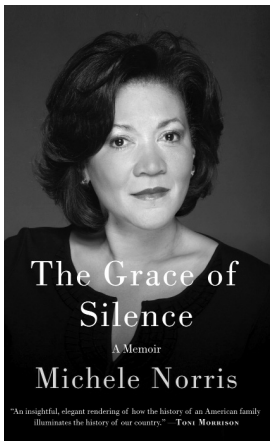
up the story; it must've been exponentially more difficult to find, in the decentralized history of a press-wary and loosely connected group, the pieces that would yield the best picture of the whole. The story is told in the history of a handful of bands; in the politicized realm of Washington D.C.; and in the effect of a handful of women who had an idea (or many) about feminism and culture, but wanted just to pass those ideas along to other women who'd make them their own. No one led riot grrrl, and it didn't want leaders — but leaderless, it crashed in on itself.

"Politics was personal; their revolution had become about a purification of one's individual life, habits, language, relationships. This is the revolutionary program of a moment that has lost the ability to envision large-scale change, or that sees institutions as so flawed at their core that they can never be vehicles of transformation," Marcus writes near the end of her book. She doesn't shy away from riot grrrl's responsibility for its own demise, but in her epilogue, still finds its enduring legacy: It "taught a crucial lesson: Always ask, Is there something wrong not with me but with the world at large?" Riot grrrl's history may come to an end, but in her last paragraphs, Marcus makes a compelling argument that we can still learn from, and still be, riot girls: "This very moment contains all you need," she writes. "Everything you're hearing right now, where you are ... this is the sound of a revolution." — Molly Templeton

THE GRACE OF SILENCE: A Memoir

by Michele Norris. Pantheon, \$24.95.

In the introduction to *The Grace of Silence*, Michele Norris (of "All Things Considered" fame) explains her original goal of revealing "an unprecedented, hidden, and robust conversation about race" taking place in America after the election of Barack Obama. The pursuit of this conversation led Norris to examine her own African-American identity, as well as to pursue unexpected — and sometimes uncomfortable — dialogue with her own family



members about being black in America. Although her investigation did not unfold entirely as she had planned, Norris makes skillful use of her immediate family history as a narrative frame around which to build a rich discussion of racial realities left increasingly unacknowledged in our theoretically "post-racial" society.

These realities could be as simple as shoveling snow, which was a self-conscious act in Norris' household. Having the clearest sidewalk, the most bountiful garden and the tidiest children were her parents' defenses against any possible complaints their skittish white neighbors could muster. Norris witnessed the grace of silence in the stoic rebellion of her block-busting parents, and also in her relatives who, until she began writing the book, cloistered painful family memories such as the shooting of her father by a white Alabama police officer.

Through careful yet persistent questioning, Norris unveils a personal history that touches on critical periods in the 20th century, such as the mistreatment of black G.I.s upon return to their communities, the anti-miscegenation violence perpetrated against black men in the deep South and even the popularity of the "Mammy" as a cultural icon. As skillful a storyteller as she is a reporter, Norris has done readers a service by breaking from her journalistic role long enough to explore the grace of her own family's silence, as well as listening to and pursuing "that which [is] left unsaid." — *Adrienne van der Valk*

PLENITUDE: The New Economics of True Wealth

by Juliet Schor. The Penguin Press, \$25.95.

Consuming less and spending less yet feeling richer is the lesson at the heart of *Plenitude*, written by economist Juliet Schor. Her thesis is that the work-and-spend path we're on has led to not only ecological decline and scarcity of food and energy, but also scarcity of incomes, jobs and credit. Our usual blueprint to recovery — debt-financed consumerism — is no longer an option humans or the planet can afford. Schor argues that focusing on sustainability will provide a

breakthrough to new sources of wealth, green technologies and different ways of living — different enough that we might all be much better off than we are now. Schor's proof is in trends such as urban farmers and Craigslist users establishing new local market systems as a way off the treadmill and into a more rewarding life.

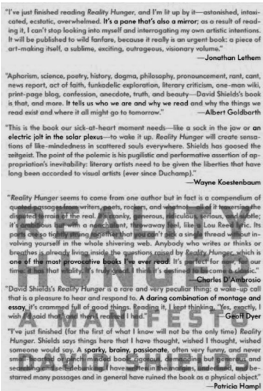
If we value what we have in abundance — nature, community, intelligence, time — we're less likely to value disposable goods that exploit the earth. Schor's not reinventing the wheel with her suggestions, but she does provide compelling ways to think about work and use of time. Unfortunately, her assumption is that everyone both wants to and is capable of leaping into shorter workweeks that leave plenty of time to buy local, grow food and sell what you don't eat. Still, she presents an inspiring new way of thinking about the world that just might become the new paradigm. — *Vanessa Salvia*

REALITY HUNGER: A Manifesto

by David Shields. Knopf, \$24.95.

Can a piece of writing be both completely solipsistic and entirely selfless? David Shields, Seattle's categorically hard-to-categorize author, might respond: The answer is no. For years now, in oddball offerings like *Remote* and *Enough About You*, Shields has been blurring literary distinctions between "reality" and fiction. With *Reality Hunger*, he delivers his most intriguing deconstruction to date, dismantling not only the genres of memoir and fiction, but the whole notion of genre itself.

Shields abandoned novel writing nearly two decades back and is now committed to keeping pace with our culture's burgeoning addiction to real-time "reality," whether that be twittering, *Jersey Shore* or the latest Oprah-approved memoir. His highly subjective, ironically self-effacing, pastiche-like approach reads like a written hip-hop that stitches elements of the confessional to the lyrical essay, and he samples everybody from William Gass and William Gibson to Montaigne and John Cougar Mellencamp. This "manifesto" — a compilation of quotes, aphorisms and epigrams (only a portion





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of them actually Shields') — raises big, bad questions about the point (and the authority) of reading and writing in a world gone insanely WTF and LOL. Short, numbered, unattributed passages (Shields suggest you clip out the citation index) build a gorgeous momentum that achieves a kind of inward/outward epiphany, collapsing all Shield's navel-gazing into a black hole where simply everything is up for grabs. Art, in the resulting vacuum, is framed in terms as crucial as life and death. In other words — and Shields' writing seems always to be saying "in other words" — *Reality Hunger* puts a brand-new shine on philosophy's immemorial attempt to restore art to culture and culture to art.

This book is, as Shields (the ventriloquist) writes, "an essay that's also a lyric, a kind of logic that wants to sing, an argument that has no chance of proving out." — *Rick Levin*

COGNITIVE SURPLUS: Creativity and Generosity in a Connected Age

by Clay Shirky. The Penguin Press, \$25.95.

In his new book, Clay Shirky (*Here Comes Everybody*) asserts that technology has allowed our species a luxury previously unknown in such great quantities: free time for our brains. We're no longer employing our mental faculties at every moment with figuring out how to find shelter, grow food or avoid calamity.

Combining this "cognitive surplus" with the promise of instantaneous communication endemic of the Internet births a new sense of altruism, expressed digitally. Our tools for effortless and instantaneous connection lead to amateur editors updating Wikipedia for no remuneration, or to the formation of "groups who pool their efforts without sharing a physical location," such as online fan clubs who mobilize charitable contributions in the names of pop stars.

Shirky has little time for curmudgeonly culture commentators who pooh-pooh social media as a transitory fad for the young. Rather, the "world of low discovery costs" afforded by online communication is for everyone, no longer restricting wide-audience communication to "official" media outlets such as, say, this newspaper. (Updated your Facebook status lately?)

This book is required reading for new media proponents, marketing and media types and really for anyone interested in how technology simultaneously drives and reacts to daily life in the early 21st century. — *Aaron Ragan-Fore*

**COGNITIVE
SURPLUS**

CREATIVITY AND GENEROSITY
IN A CONNECTED AGE

**CLAY
SHIRKY**

MYSTERIES AND LEGENDS OF OREGON: True Stories of the Unsolved and Unexplained

by Jim Yuskavitch. Globe Pequot Press, \$18.95.

When visiting an unfamiliar city, my wife and I like to take a haunted walking tour to help get our bearings. Learning the area's myths gives us a feel for the culture of the place, and helps us bone up on the broad strokes of local history.

Jim Yuskavitch's slender volume offers a similar opportunity, the chance to learn about our home state through the episodes one *won't* discover on a mural in the state Capitol building.

From the Portland Shanghai tunnels to Bigfoot sightings in the Cascades, from the haunting of the Heceta Head Lighthouse to the disappearance of a 1970s aerial hijacker, Yuskavitch takes a scattershot approach that is more fun than it is comprehensive. The tales are written in a straightforward, unadorned manner, less "campfire" and more "encyclopedia," and one might wish for a bit more poetry in their telling.

Don't get me wrong; there's some good stuff here. The chapter on the Columbia River Valley's Bridge of the Gods is amazing, and the mystery of the Lost Blue Bucket Mine left me scratching my head. Yuskavitch's concise retellings will appeal to armchair historians, conspiracy buffs and kids looking for fodder for a really cool school history project. — *Aaron Ragan-Fore*

poetry

THE LAST SKIN

by Barbara Ras. Penguin, \$18.

Barbara Ras dedicates her third book of poetry, *The Last Skin*, to her mother, who died in 2002. The poet takes grief beyond the personal, seeing "frailty everywhere," noting that even the mahogany from which the coffin is made is "itself in danger." Ras travels to Poland and to Lake Titicaca, 12,500 feet above sea level. No matter where she goes, she is reminded of what is lost. In "Windows on the Lake," she wonders: "How far will a bird hop on ground before choosing / flight, and how long can I sit here with my memories / pinging incoherently off the glass like bugs / trying to find a way out?"

Although infused with grief, the book also sparkles with whimsy. Ras has a soft spot for the inherent goofiness of the human condition. She also revels in odd words and juxtapositions,



finding a lush comfort in language. We sense the writer seeking happiness, but succeeding only partly, and only part of the time.

The Last Skin is brought to a powerful close by "Washing the Elephant," which begins, "Isn't it always the heart that wants to wash / the elephant" and goes on to stroll past sadness, guilt, desire and love, all viewed as if from the high perch of an elephant's back. In the end the poem circles around to "it's always the heart that wants to go out and wash / the huge mysteriousness of what they meant, those memories / that have only memories to feed them, and only you to keep them clean." — *Cecelia Hagen*

THRESHOLD

by Jennifer Richter. Southern Illinois University Press, \$14.95.

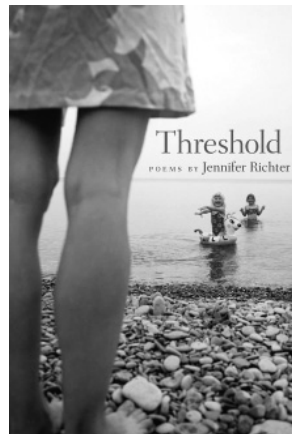
What better antidote to hard times than a collection of poems about pain? Corvallis poet Jennifer Richter, author of *Threshold*, underwent a long-term, unspecified health issue. We see her wearing a hospital gown, hooked up to an IV, savoring the first few seconds after waking before the day's pain stakes its claim. We also see her as a mother, a wife and daughter, a writing teacher learning from her imprisoned students. No matter what her role, Richter examines life's jagged edges with stringent honesty and determination.

More than half the poems are prose poems: dense paragraphs, poems without lines. Because a prose poem can't rely on line breaks to impart any music or pause, its language and imagery has to compel, as in: "The dozens of wobbling ladders in the grass: these are your doctor's long reports" (from "Recovery 4").

Richter also makes frequent use of "you" instead of "I" to separate the speaker from the person that speaker is describing. This suits the rawness of the subject matter, and reflects the schism illness can put between the thinking self and the feeling self.

It's easy to see why Pulitzer Prize winner Natasha Trethewey chose this book as the winner of the Crab Orchard Series Open Competition Award: *Threshold* is restrained and soulful. Richter writes the most breathtaking accounts of motherhood that I've ever encountered. When you read *Threshold*, you know these poems had to be written, and you see how the intensified language of poetry can create a necessary, life-saving refuge. — *Cecelia Hagen*

Unless noted, all books reviewed were published in 2010.

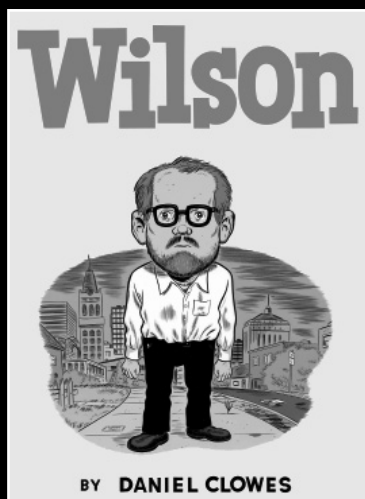
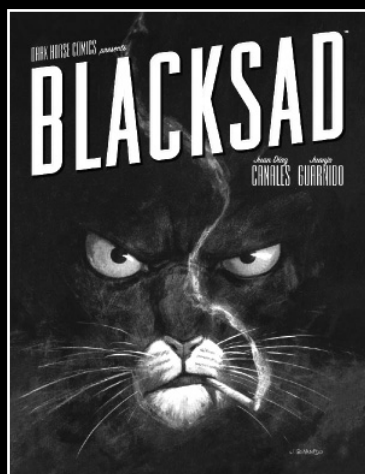


Tricks Are for Kids

The year's crop of comic books and graphic novels presents a couple of noteworthy projects that are fun for the whole family, and two that are decidedly just for grown-ups.

Juan Díaz Canales' and Juanjo Guarnido's lush and noirish **Blacksad** collection (Dark Horse, \$29.99) falls into the latter category. This single-volume collection of comic albums, originally intended for the European market and now produced in translation by Oregon-based publisher Dark Horse, simultaneously celebrates and lampoons the American detective genre, using anthropomorphized animals as stand-ins for human characters in shades of Art Spiegelman's famed *Maus*. These aren't comics for kids; the adventures of titular feline detective John Blacksad feature all the sex and violence of dime-store private eye paperbacks, lushly rendered with a Disney-like eye for detail and an admirable fidelity to the craft of building a fictional world.

Like *Blacksad*, **Wilson** (Drawn & Quarterly, \$21.95), the first original graphic novel by Daniel Clowes (*Ghost World*, *Art School Confidential*), is titled after the surname of its protagonist. And like *Blacksad*, *Wilson* is an incredible and affecting work. That's where the comparison ends, though. The title character is a middle-aged, bloviating blowhard of a loser who loves his dog (sort of), accosts unsuspecting coffee shop patrons (always) and, weirdly, gets wrapped up in a kidnapping plot. Each page is presented as a separate comic strip, with a separate episode title and a distinct art style, bricks in the single storyline house Clowes is constructing. The usual Clowes levels of ennui, disaffection and misanthropy are on full display, blended with just a slight touch of nausea. So laugh along with Wilson as he tries to grow up and get his shit together. Or not. Whatever. He's a Dan Clowes character.



Full-color Sunday adventure comic strips are the forerunners of modern superheroes. Combine this with the fact that Wednesday is the traditional day of the week that comic book stores release new issues, and you have the handsome new hardcover **Wednesday Comics** compendium (DC Comics, \$49.99). This thing is massive, well over 11x17 inches, and, in combining work by indie darling creators like Paul Pope and Oregon favorite son Michael Allred with superhero stalwarts like Joe Kubert and José Luis García-López, the sprawling project convincingly replicates the Sunday morning comics-reading experience. The stable of DC characters is also diverse, from headliners like Batman and Wonder Woman to niche characters like Sgt. Rock and the Metal Men. There's a bit of innuendo and a bit of violence, *de rigueur* for superhero comics. The price tag is a bit steep, but DC has really hit a home run with this project, producing a meaty helping of comics that straddles that elusive middle ground between the reading (and interest) levels of the YA and adult reader. And hey, the titanic thing would look darn stylish under the Christmas tree.

But the real winner for tykes this year is **The Golden Collection of Klassic Krazy Kool Kids' Komiks** (IDW Publishing, \$34.99), an encyclopedia volume-sized collection of comic books and comic strips reveling in their immaturity and aimed squarely at children. These comics, spanning from the 1850s to the 1990s, are Looney Tunes-style zaniness, a pure and uncut sugar high reminiscent of chugging the milk left over after a helping of your favorite chocolatey breakfast cereal. There's not a whole lot here for adults, beyond those grown-up comics history geeks who will enjoy seeing early work by the likes of Dr. Seuss, Steve Ditko (*The Amazing Spider-Man*), Dan DeCarlo (*Archie*) and Mort Walker (*Beetle Bailey*). But that's OK. Just think of the book as the printed equivalent of a secret clubhouse, and let your kids go on believing you've forgotten the secret handshake. — *Aaron Ragan-Fore*

what's happening



32 movies



34 music



36 nightlife

16thurs

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Watershed Soiree, silent auction & holiday party to support local watershed, 8-11pm, Old City Hall, 28 S. Sixth Ave., Cottage Grove, info at www.coastfork.org or 767-9717. \$17.

GATHERINGS Santa's Workshop w/Coconut Bliss, live music, arts & crafts, make/take a gift, free Coconut Bliss, noon-8pm today & tomorrow, 55 W. Broadway. FREE.

Festival of Trees Open House, decorated Christmas trees, music, food, tours, 5:30-7:30pm, Valley West Health Care Center, 2300 Warren St., info at 686-2828.

La Posada Celebration, Mexican holiday tradition, food, piñatas, music & more, open to public, 6-8pm, Oak Hill School, 86397 East Way Dr. FREE.

Rainy Day Blues Society Meeting, info meeting, raffle, music, all ages, 6:30pm, Mac's at the Vets, 1626 Willamette St. FREE.

LECTURES/TALKS Call to Artists Workshop w/Julie Weismann, learn to submit your artwork, 5:30pm, Oregon Arts Alliance, 881 Willamette St. \$10, mem. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS Weapon of Choice: VOICE, youth po-

etry open mic, 7-9pm, Morning Glory Café, 450 Willamette St. FREE.

MUSIC SHOCcase w/Eugene Opera: Puccini's *La Boheme*, 11:15am, Hult Center. FREE.

Portland Cello Project, strings, 9pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$10.

Charlie Hunter Trio, 9pm, Sam Bond's. \$18.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Walk with Us, weekly self-led neighborhood walking group, ages 50 & up, 9:30-10:30am today & Thursday, Dec. 23, meet at Petersen Barn Community Center, 870 Berntzen Rd. FREE.

Drop-in Kayaking, bring equipment, no instruction provided, ages 12 & up, 8-10pm today & Thursday, Dec. 23, Echo Hollow Pool, 1655 Echo Hollow Rd. \$5.

SPIRITUAL Friendly Street Church Nativity, live actors, sets & animals, 7-9pm today through Sunday, 23rd & Friendly St. FREE.

Dzogchen Buddhist Teachings w/Kunzang Bateson, 7-9pm, Market of Choice, 29th & Willamette, info at 743-6440. FREE.

THEATER *Hairspray*, 8pm today, tomorrow & Saturday, Actors Cabaret, 996 Willamette St., info & tickets at www.actorscabaret.org or call 683-4368. \$16-\$39.95.

The Santaland Diaries, 8pm today, tomorrow & Saturday; 2pm Sunday, Lord Leebrick Theatre, 540 Charnelton St., tickets at www.lordleebrick.com or 456-1506. \$15.

17fri

Sunrise 7:42am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

DANCE Eugene Ballet Co.'s *The Nutcracker*, 7:30pm today; 2pm & 7:30pm tomorrow; 2pm Sunday, Hult Center, tickets at www.hultcenter.org or 682-5000. \$22-\$48.

MEDGE w/Regina Anne, Middle Eastern dance, music, 8:30pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5.

FILM Governor's Film & Video Annual Meeting, statewide video-conferencing event w/Gov. Ted Kulongoski, Gus Van Sant, Dean Devlin, Mayor Kitty Piercy & others, 7pm, Knight Library, UO, info at www.mopan.org

GATHERINGS Diabetes Support & Information Group, 10am-noon, Campbell Community Center, 155 High St. FREE.

City Club of Eugene: "The State of Poetry in Eugene: A Demonstration," 11:50am-1:30pm, Eugene Hilton Hotel, 66 E. Sixth Ave. \$5, members FREE.

Winter Solstice Celebration, family activities, baking demos, food, live music w/Joe Manis, storytelling w/Uncle Bunkle & Anun Toke, Lion Dancers performance, 5-8pm, Museum of Natural & Cultural History, UO. FREE w/don. of non-perishable food item.

Made Holiday Pop Up Shop, handmade goods, live music, 6-9pm, 39 W. Broadway. FREE.

Vegan Potluck, bring utensils & white elephant gift, 7pm, McNeil-Riley House, 601 W. 13th Ave., info at 341-1690.

One Person's Junk Jewelry Exchange, potluck jewelry party, dance, 10pm, Club Snafu, 64 W. 8th Alley.

Santa's Workshop w/Coconut Bliss continues. See Thursday, Dec. 16.

KIDS/FAMILIES Family Fun Nights: *The Muppets Take Manhattan*, screening, games, activities, food & swim, 6pm, Sheldon Community Center, 2443 Willakenzie Rd. FREE.

LECTURES/TALKS Stroke Awareness, health talk for older adults, 11am-noon, Campbell Community Center, 155 High St., reg. at 682-5318. FREE.

MUSIC Advent Organ Recitals w/Julia Brown, 12:15-12:45pm, First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St. FREE.

Monsters of Accordion 2010 w/Jason Webley, Corn Mo, Renee de la Prade, The Petrojvick Blasting Co. w/special guests Aeon Now, 9pm, WOW Hall. \$10 adv., \$12 door.

Yeltsin, Unicorn, rock, 9pm, Sam Bond's. \$5.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Walk 'n' Talkers, weekly 3-5 mile brisk walk, ages 50 & up, meet at 9am, Campbell Community Center, 155 High St. FREE.

Bike Riding for Fun & Fitness, weekly seniors bike ride, helmets required, 9:30am-noon, Campbell Community Center, 155 High St. FREE.

SOCIAL DANCE Drop-in Dance: Waltz, 8:30-10pm, Staver Dance Sport, 41 E. 6th Ave. \$10.

SPIRITUAL Dances of Universal Peace, all ages, special Rumi commemoration, 7pm, Friends Meeting House, 2274 Onyx. Don.

Friendly Street Church Nativity continues. See Thursday, Dec. 16.

THEATER *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, read by David Stuart Bull w/Celtic music & song, 3pm today, tomorrow & Sunday; 9:30pm Monday through Thursday, Dec. 23, Café Soriah, 384 W. 13th Ave., RSVP at 342-4410. \$10.

Ye Olde Christmas Feaste w/Thurston High School Choir, music, dinner theater, 6:30pm today & tomorrow, Thurston High School, 333 58th St., Spfd. \$15, final concert after 8:30pm FREE.

Fred Crafts' Radio Redux: *Scrooge in Love*, 7:30pm today & tomorrow; 2pm Sunday, Wildish Theater, 630 Main St., Spfd. \$12, \$7 stu. & sen.

Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*, 7:30pm today & tomorrow; 2:30pm Sunday, The Shedd, 868 High St., info & tickets at www.theshedd.org \$20-\$42.

Hairspray continues. See Thursday, Dec. 16.

The Santaland Diaries continue. See Thursday, Dec. 16.

18sat

Sunrise 7:43am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

ARTS/VISUAL Book Release w/photographer Erna Gilbertson, author of *From the Ridgeline...*, 4-8pm, Courtyard Ste. 225, Fifth St. Public Market, www.blurb.com

NCSY Dessert Benefit & Auction, mission to "inspire the Jewish future," food, wine, music, gifts, proceeds fund scholarships, 7-9pm, Oregon Hillel, 1059 Hilyard St., info at 844-1340.

DANCE *The Nutcracker* continues. See Friday.

FARMERS' MARKETS Mazzi's-Hideaway Bakery Farmers' Market, year 'round, 9am-2pm, 3377 E. Amazon.

The Corner Market, fresh local produce, winter hours start, 10am-4pm today & 11am-6pm Wednesday, 295 River Rd. FREE.

GATHERINGS Nitrate Screening Clinic, bring half-cup well water, 5-10 min. for test results, 8am-1pm, Community Services Center, 175 W. 7th Ave., Junction City, info at 766-3556. FREE.

Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, w/entertainment by Rich Glauber, 10:30am; Sacred Harp Singers, 11:30am; LCC Faculty Jazz Band, 12:30pm; Brian Cutean, 1:45pm; Sideroads, 3:15pm; The Streamliners, 4:45pm, Lane County Fairgrounds, 13th & Jefferson, www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Free People, food, clothing, music, fellowship, 11am-3pm, WOW Hall. FREE.

Pokemon Tournament, round of game-play, 11am, Abby's Pizza, 1976 Echo Hollow Rd., info at www.pokemon.com FREE.

"The Nutcracker Tea" w/ Eugene Ballet Co., lunch, sweets, storytelling w/Mark Lewis, free gift for kids, noon, today & tomorrow, Hult Center. \$25, \$20 youth.

Santa is Coming to Friendly Street, holiday market w/trees, wreaths, crafts, food, photos w/Santa & more, noon-5pm, 28th & Friendly St., photographers are autism friendly, for appt. call 954-5584.

Flock the Village, flash mob dance to celebrate Ducks football season, 2-4pm, Crescent Village, info at www.flockthevillage.com

Holiday Art Show & Performance, paintings by Denise Steele, sword dance by Sabine, 4-7pm, Celebration Belly Dance & Yoga Studio, 1840 Willamette St., info at 543-4443. FREE.

Posada Navidena, celebration w/Amigos Multicultural Services Center & Juventud FACETA, 6-9pm, Whiteaker School, 21 N. Grand St., info at 746-6022. FREE.

Winter Solstice Goddess Celebration, gift exchange, 6-10pm, Stadium Bar & Grill, 1675 Franklin Blvd. \$5-\$10, FOOD for Lane County discount.

KIDS/FAMILIES Breakfast w/Santa, 9:30am & 10:30am, Amazon Community Center, 2700 Hilyard St., reg. at 682-5373. \$5.

Family Music Time w/Emlly Fox, banjo tunes, 10:15am, Downtown Library. FREE.

Storytime in Spanish w/Latino Liaison Emily, ages 0-6, 1pm, Springfield Library, 225 Fifth St., Spfd. FREE.

Family Movie Matinee: *The NeverEnding Story* (Rated G), 2:30pm, Springfield Library, 225 Fifth St., Spfd. FREE.

LECTURES/TALKS Genealogy, computer class, research family history, 10am, Downtown Library, reg. at 682-5450. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS Lane Literary Guild & Oregon State Poetry Assoc. Open Mic & Potluck, readings, bring finger food, 5pm, Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette St. FREE.

MUSIC Oregon Tuba Ensemble, seasonal music, 2pm, Atrium Building, 10th & Olive. FREE.

Walker T. Ryan, Al Rivers, Brian Chevalier, singer/songwriters, 7:30pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$7.

Elanora, Her Death & After, Forever Ends Today, Tigress,



Before the Nothing destroys the world, fly with Falkor the luckdragon to the kingdom of Fantasia when Wolfgang Petersen's beloved 1984 classic,

The NeverEnding Story, gets a free screening Saturday at Springfield Library

calendar



Al Rivers blows a mean harp Saturday at Cozmic Pizza

hard rock, 8pm, WOW Hall. \$7 adv., \$8 door.

Early Show: 3 Way Street, 6pm, FREE; Horse Feathers, Y La Bamba, 9pm, folk, indie. \$8.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION
Obsidians: Three Mile Lake, Takehlich, hike, 6.7 miles; Midnight Lake, cross-country ski, 6 miles; Fawn Lake, snowshoe, 8 miles, info & sign-up at www.obsidians.org

Learn to Cross-Country Ski, rent or bring equipment, 8am-6pm, meet at River House Community Center, 301 N. Adams St., reg. at 682-5329. \$49, includes transportation

Snowshoe & Learn About Nature w/guide Dave Walp, ages 16 & up, rent or bring snowshoes, 8am-6pm, meet at River House Community Center, 301 N. Adams St., reg. at 682-5329. \$40, includes transportation, instruction & trail pass.

GEARs Bike Ride: Applegate Trail Breakfast Ride, 37 miles, restaurant stop, 10am, Alton Baker Park, info at www.eugene-gears.org FREE.

PETS Homes for Hounds Santa Paws Fundraiser, greyhounds for adoption, Santa available for pet photos, noon-5pm today & tomorrow, Petsmart, 2847 Chad

Dr., www.homes4hounds.com \$9.95 per photo.

SOCIAL DANCE Barn Dance w/Old Time Fiddlers, dances taught, all levels welcome, 7-10pm, Spencer Creek Grange, 86013 Lorane Hwy, www.spencercreekgrange.org \$4, under 10 FREE.

SPIRITUAL Meditation Practice w/Alan Zundel, 8:30-9:45am, 41 W. 19th Ave., info at 510-8804. Don.

Friendly Street Church Nativity continues. See Thursday, Dec. 16.

THEATER Poison Pen Players' *Dead in the Sled: Ho, Ho, Ho... Oh No*, dinner theater, 7pm, Red Lion Inn, 205 Coburg Rd., tickets at www.poisonpenplayers.com or 999-9281. \$45.

The Forth Son of the Emperor & Seven Crystals and Night w/ Jacob Young, performance-based fiction, 8pm today, 55 Broadway St.; 7pm tomorrow & Monday w/opening band Talouse Lautrec, 513 E. Main St., Cottage Grove, info at www.ritualtheater.org FREE, don. benefit theater space.

Hairspray continues. See Thursday, Dec. 16.

The Santaland Diaries continue. See Thursday, Dec. 16.

A Child's Christmas in Wales continues. See Friday.

White Christmas continues. See Friday.

Ye Olde Christmas Feaste continues. See Saturday.

Scrooge in Love continues. See Saturday.

VOLUNTEER Trainsong Neighborhood Street & Yard Tree Planting, gloves, tools & refreshments provided, 9am-1pm, Bethel Community Church, 2600 Wood Ave., www.eugenetreefoundation.org



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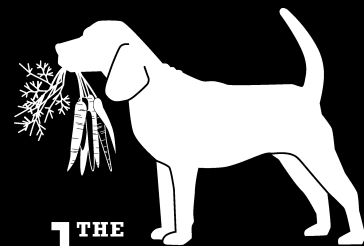
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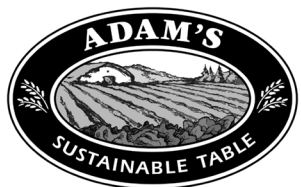


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WED: Cheddar Frank.....	\$4.95
THUR: Bavarian Bratwurst.....	\$4.95
FRI: Andouille Sausage.....	\$4.95
SAT: Black Forest Beef Sausage....	\$3.95

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Celebrate the season Friday with
Thurston High School Choir's
Ye Olde Christmas Feaste



calendar

19sun

Sunrise 7:44am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

BENEFITS "Harmony for the Holidays" w/Misty River feat. guitarist Doug Smith, benefit for Egan Warming Center project, 3:30pm, First Christian Church, 1166 Oak St., info at www.mistyriverband.com or 344-7433. \$16 adv., \$20 door.

DANCE The Nutcracker continues. See Friday.

GATHERINGS Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, w/entertainment by Oak Hill Glee Club, 10:30am; Michael Conley, 11:30am; Left Coast Sax Quartet, 12:30pm; Darcy Du Ruz & Ben Farrell, 1:30pm; Laura Kemp Trio, 2:30pm; The Traceys, 3:15pm; Jeremy Wegner & Friends, 4:45pm, Lane County Fairgrounds, 13th & Jefferson, www.holidaymaket.org FREE.

Picc-A-Dilly Flea Market, 10am-4pm, Lane County Fairgrounds, 796 W. 13th Ave., info at 683-5589. \$1.50.

Eugene Rainbow Family Potluck, bring utensils & food, 1-6pm, Alton Baker Park. FREE.

Winter Solstice Celebration, feat. music w/I-Chele & the Circle of Light, Ras Gabriel & 4World, Irie Impressions, potluck, 4-6pm; music, 6-10pm, Spencer Creek Grange, 86013 Lorane Hwy, www.spencercreekgrange.org Don.

OMMP Celebration, music, prizes, raffles, games, Oregon Medical Marijuana Patient card-

holders & families only, 5:30-9:30pm, WOW Hall.

"The Nutcracker Tea" continues. See Saturday.

KIDS/FAMILIES Family Board Games w/super-gamer Chris Ballowe, 3pm, Downtown Library. FREE.

LECTURES/TALKS Travel Info Online, computer class, 2pm, Downtown Library, reg. at 682-5450. FREE.

MUSIC Alison Helzer, CD release celebration, 5pm, Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette St. Don.

Rob Tobias & the NW Express, CD release party, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5.

Eugene Sacred Harp Singers' Holiday Concert & Sing-Along, 7:30pm, Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St. Don.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION GEARS Bike Ride: Harrisburg, 45 miles, food stop, 10am, Alton Baker Park, info at www.eugenegears.org FREE.

PETS Santa Paws Fundraiser continues. See Saturday.

SOCIAL DANCE Cuban Salsa Lessons, beginner level, 5-6pm, Courtsports, 2728 Pheasant Blvd. FREE.

SPIRITUAL Coalescence Ecstatic Dance, 10am-noon, WOW Hall, info at www.ecstatic-danceeugene.com \$7-\$12.

Gnostic Mass, w/Coph Nia O.T.O., 8pm, 1125 Bailey Hill Rd. FREE.

Friendly Street Church Nativity continues. See Thursday, Dec. 16.

THEATER The Santaland Diaries continue. See Thursday, Dec. 16.

A Child's Christmas in Wales continues. See Friday.

White Christmas continues. See Friday.

Scrooge in Love continues. See Saturday.

The Forth Son of the Emperor & Seven Crystals and Night w/ Jacob Young continues. See Saturday.

20mon

Sunrise 7:44am; Sunset 4:37pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

BENEFITS "Gift of Joy" Workshop, workshop on how to make a horse harness for kids, benefit for Womenspace, 7-8:30pm, Eugene Waldorf School, 1350 McLean Blvd., reg. at 683-6951. \$20 sliding scale per gift, materials included.

Drumming up the Sun, silent auction, drumming, dancing, singing, potluck dinner, community gathering to benefit adopted families, 9pm, UUCE, 477 E. 40th, info at 844-2339. \$5-\$25, plus 2 canned food don.

GATHERINGS Lunar Eclipse Party w/Eugene Astronomical Society, info, telescopes available, 9:30pm-2am, College Hill Reservoir, 24th & Lawrence. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Holiday Science Adventures, half-day



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Sat. Dec 18 - 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Sun. Dec 19 - 2:00 pm

plus NUTCRACKER TEAS - Dec 18 & 19 - 12:00 noon
Hult Center for the Performing Arts

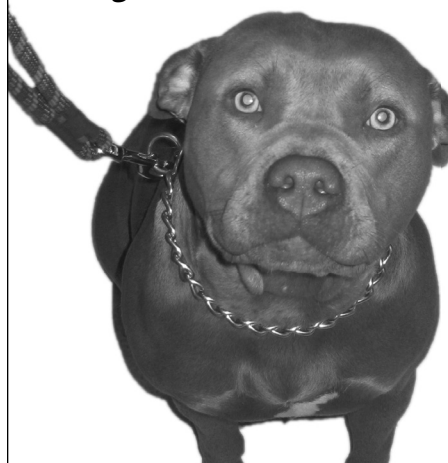
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Baby Huey and Newsflash say bring your cats and dogs in for Santa photos during the Paws fundraiser Saturday & Sunday at PetSmart

campers for ages 6-8, info, hands-on activities, 9am-noon & 1-4pm today, tomorrow & Wednesday, Science Factory Children's Museum, 2300 Leo Harris Pkwy, info at www.sciencefactory.org or 682-7888. \$18 per session, \$15 mem.; \$125 all 8 sessions, \$105 mem.

Preschool Fun w/Art, ages 3-6, 10:30-11am, Springfield Library, 225 Fifth St., Spfd. FREE.

LECTURES/TALKS "Estate Planning Presentation & Discussion" w/attorney Bill Atwood, 2:30-4pm, Campbell Community Center, 155 High St., reg. at 682-5318. FREE.

MUSIC Hokoyo Marimba & Friends, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$7-\$15.

ON THE AIR City Club of Eugene: "The State of Poetry in Eugene: A Demonstration," 6:30-7:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

Permaculture Television, interviews w/Eugene permaculture people, 7pm, CTV Cable 29.

SPIRITUAL Open Heart Meditation, 5:30-6:30pm, 15 N. Cedar St., www.heartsanctuary.org FREE.

THEATER A Child's Christmas in Wales continues. See Friday.

The Forth Son of the Emperor & Seven Crystals and Night w/ Jacob Young continues. See Saturday.

21tues

Sunrise 7:45am; Sunset 4:37pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

FARMERS' MARKETS
Creswell Farmers' Market, indoors, 4-6pm, 2nd & D St., Creswell.

GATHERINGS Senior Meals Holiday Lunch w/appearance by Willamalane preschoolers, door prizes, ages 50 & up, 11:30am, Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St., info at 736-4444. Cost of food varies.

Homeless Memorial, 5-7pm, WOW Hall. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Storytime for Terrific Twos, age 2, 10:15am & 11am, Downtown Library. FREE.

Preschool Fun w/Art, ages 3-6, 10:30-11am, Springfield Library, 225 Fifth St., Spfd. FREE.

Evening Jammie Storytime, come in PJs, all ages, 7pm, Springfield Library, 225 Fifth St., Spfd. FREE.

Holiday Science Adventures continue. See Monday.

MUSIC "Wordless Solstice" w/ Brian Cudean, solo guitar, meditative celebration, 6pm, Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette St. \$5 sug. don.

Bluegrass Jam, 9pm, Sam Bond's. FREE.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidians: Mt. Pisgah, hike, 3 miles, info & sign-up at www.obsidians.org

THEATER A Child's Christmas in Wales continues. See Friday.

22wed

Sunrise 7:45am; Sunset 4:33pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

FARMERS' MARKETS The Corner Market continues. See Saturday.

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Sat. Dec. 18 7:30pm

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+ Dance presented by:

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FILM "Western Musical Women" Theme w/Willamalane Movie Appreciation Group: *The Unsinkable Molly Brown* (1964), 1pm, Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St., Spfd. FREE.

GATHERINGS Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, w/entertainment by Uncle Bunkle, 10:30am; David Rogers, 11:30am; Janet Naylor & Linda Danielson, 12:30pm; Gus Russell Trio, 1:45pm; Chico Schwall Group, 3:15pm; The Fiannacats, 4:45pm, Lane County Fairgrounds, 13th & Jefferson, www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Screenwriting Group, 6:30pm, CTV Studio, Sheldon High School, 2455 Willakenzie Rd., info at 543-2593. FREE.

Knitting & Craft Night, 6:30pm, The Divine Cupcake, 1680 W. 11th Ave., info at 543-5757. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Preschool Storytime, ages 3-6 & Lapsit Storytime, ages birth-3, 10am, Springfield Library, 225 Fifth St. FREE.

Holiday Science Adventures continue. See Monday.

LITERARY ARTS "At the stroke of one" w/Sir ReadAlot, dramatic one-act reading of *A Christmas Carol*, 8pm, Cozmic Pizza. FREE.

MUSIC The Joe Manis Trio, jazz, 9pm, Sam Bond's. FREE.

SPIRITUAL A Course in Miracles, drop-in study group, 10-11:45am, Unity of the Valley, 39th & Hilyard, 914-0431. FREE.

THEATER *A Child's Christmas in Wales* continues. See Friday.

23thurs

Sunrise 7:46am; Sunset 4:38pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

GATHERINGS Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, w/entertainment by Students of Olem Alves, 11:30am; The Rosen Sisers, 12:30pm; Sweet River, 1:45pm; NOW! Trio, 3:15pm; Fiddlin' Sue Band, 4:45pm, Lane County Fairgrounds, 13th & Jefferson, www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

MUSIC Evan Churchill, Jeremy Pruitt, Jesse Meade, singer/songwriters, 7:30pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5.

Dan Jones & the Golden Motors, rock, pop, 9pm, Sam Bond's. \$5.

ON THE AIR "Merry Beatles: A Cool Yule w/The Fab Four" feat. covers by jazz musicians, 9pm-midnight, KLCC 89.7 FM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Walk with Us continues. See Dec. 16.



Celebration Belly Dance & Yoga Studio hosts an art show and sword dance Saturday

Drop-in Kayaking continues. See Dec. 16.

THEATER *A Child's Christmas in Wales* continues. See Friday.

corvallis EVENTS

Note - Continuation dates for out-of-town events are listed under the first day of the event.

FRIDAY, DEC. 17 *A Christmas Carol*, 8pm today, tomorrow, Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 23; 2:30pm Sunday, Dec. 19; 4pm Friday, Dec. 24, Majestic Theatre, 115 SW 2nd St., tickets at www.willamettstage.org or 541-368-7092. \$19, \$16 stu. & sen.

attn: OPPS

The Eugene Concert Choir and Eugene Vocal Arts Ensemble will hold evening auditions for new members Thursday, Jan. 6, at Emmaus Lutheran Church, 18th & Polk; to arrange an audition time, email choir@eugeneconcertchoir.org or call 687-6865; info available at www.eugeneconcertchoir.org

Chamber Music Amici is holding its second annual art contest to

select five winners to feature on concert posters next season; information and entry forms are available at www.chambermusicamici.org or www.emeraldart-center.org

Lord Leebrick Theatre Company will hold open auditions for Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* 1-4pm Saturday, Jan. 8; for more information, email director@lordleebrick.com or call 684-6988.

The Arts Commission in Springfield is seeking four applicants with strong interest in the arts willing to help the commission promote arts activities; the deadline to submit applications is 5pm on Jan. 26; application packets are available at the City Manager's Office, 225 Fifth St. or online at www.springfield-artscommission.org; for further information, call 726-2237.

The Lane County Board of Commissioners is seeking applications from community members interested in serving on the Lane Area Commission on Transportation as representatives for unincorporated communities along the Highway 126 corridor east of Springfield; the application deadline is 5pm Wednesday, Dec. 22; application forms are available at the Board of Commissioners' Office or can be requested by mail by calling 682-4203; applications may also be downloaded at www.lane-county.org

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art IN THE GALLERIES

OPENINGS/RECEPTIONS

Holiday Sales & Open Studios
See Calendar for all holiday show/sale listings.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art "Magma Spirit Explodes, Tsunami is Dreadful," graphic print mural by Japanese pop artist Chiho Aoshima, now on display; "Giuseppe Vasi's Rome: Lasting Impressions from the Age of the Grand Tour," through Jan. 2; "Excessive Obsession," through July 31, 2011. 1430 Johnson Ln., UO

The Voyeur "Boundaries Between," digital mixed media by Beth Robinson, artist's talk & discussion 6pm Friday, Dec. 17, exhibit continues through Dec. 23. 547 Blair

CONTINUING

5th St. Market Holiday Gallery Showing & nature photography by Erna Gilbertson, through Dec. 31. 5th St. Public Market

The Art Center "Where Birds Dream," through Dec. 24. 700 SW Madison Ave., Corvallis

Backstreet Gallery "Little Dickens Show," works in various media by Florence artists, through Dec. 31. 1421 Bay St., Florence

Blackfish Cafe "Disappearing Oregon," photographs by Rich Bergeman, through Dec. 29. 2733 NW Hwy 101, Lincoln City

BRING Gallery "Vision/Revision," group show w/ Oregon Arts Alliance, through Dec. 30. 4446 Franklin Blvd

Cowfish Neon art by Virginia Sands & blacklight paint on black velvet by Honey Vizer, through Jan. 15. 62 W. Broadway

David Joyce Gallery "Food, Field & Fiber," fiber based art by 12 local artists, through Jan. 7. LCC Campus, 4000 E. 30th

Don Dexter Offices "Recent Works," oil pastels & collage by Laurie McNichols; "Images," photography by Doni Dexter, through Jan. 30. 2233 Willamette

Dot Dotson's "Monochromes," photos by Dennis Galloway, through Dec. 29. 1668 Willamette

Emerald Art Center "Selected Photographs from Members of Spectrum Art Gallery," feat. Sandi Grubbs & Diane Lang, through Jan. 7. 500 Main St., Spfd

Eugene Library Work by five pastel artists feat. Joy Descotaux, Gladys Bacon, Germaine Hammon, Anna Horrigan & Kate McGee, through Dec. 29. 100 W. 10th

Feast "Raw," process art by Trudonna, through Dec. 31. 294 Laurel St., Florence

Florence Events Center Galleries "Best of Show Awards" feat. work by Rhonda Chase, Bob Sanov, Michael N. Schwartz & youth artists April McCalmont and Ashley Ireland, through Dec. 30. 715 Quince St., Florence

Full City Coffee Work by Marilyn Marcus & Demetra Kamas, through Jan. 9; watercolors by Noelle Dass, through Jan. 2. 842 Pearl

The Glenwood "Botanical Beauties," watercolor & pastel prints by Tara Kemp, through Dec. 31. 2588 Willamette

Harmony Roadhouse Studios "Marina's Art Studio Opening Celebration," works by Marina Herrera de Hajek, political statements & works in bronze, through Jan. 30. 2650 Willamette

Imagine Gallery "City of Glass," ornaments by local glass makers, through Dec. 24. 35 E. 8th

Island Park Gallery "On the Wing," bird images by five local artists, through Jan. 21. 215 W. C St., Spfd

Jacobs Gallery "Small Pleasures Invitational Exhibit," miniature works by Bob Keefer, Mo Bowen, Dan Pegoda, Kay King & more. (under the Hult)

Karin Clarke Gallery "Happy Holidays!" Group Show, feat. new work by Mark Clarke & Margaret Coe, through Dec. 23. 760 Willamette

Keystone Cafe Landscape paintings by Sandy Larkin, through Dec. 31. 359 W. 5th

Law School Gallery "Double Vision: Panoramic Photos of Eastern Oregon & the Willamette Valley," photos by Kurt E. Norlin, through Jan. 4. UO Campus

Museum of Natural & Cultural History "Celestial Menagerie: Multi-media Artwork by Talmadge Doyle"; "PaleoLab - Oregon's Past Revealed: Horses & Grasslands," through Dec. 19; "We Are Still Here," Stephanie Wood's & Grand Ronde Family Basketry Traditions; "Solitude & Absolute Form," photography by Jon Meyers, "Oregon: Where Past is Present," ongoing. 1680 E. 15th

Museum of Unfine Art Work by Rena Kriegh, Jessica Haecel & Valentina Gonzalez, through Dec. 31. 537 Willamette

New Odyssey Art by Sam Dantone, through Dec. 31. 10th & Willamette

New Zone Gallery "Light Play," photography by Deb Ingebretsen; holiday store, through Dec. 31. 164 W. Broadway

Nib "Tienhaara-Gerritz Mixed Media Artworks," recycled & renewed decoupage pop art by Anna Christine Smith, through Dec. 31. 769 Monroe

Oregon Arts Alliance "Ho Ho Holidays," local art for holiday gift giving, through Dec. 24. 881 Willamette

Paul Otte Studio Experiment w/new techniques in fabric dyeing, free workshop, 12-6pm Saturdays through Dec. 18. 1510 Lincoln

Pizza Research Inst. "Primary Places," oil paintings by Brooke Borcherding, through Jan. 22. 530 Blair

Potter's Quarter Felted textiles by Mary Jane Moffat, through Feb. 8. 110 Oakway Center

Sam Bond's B&W darkroom prints, paintings & more by Kim Rose from the Dirty South; Blunt Graffix, silk-screen graphics of stimulating pop icons old & new, through Dec. 29. 407 Blair

Shelton-McMurphy-Johnson House Holiday decorations, through Jan. 7. 303 Willamette

Springfield Museum "Old-Fashioned Holiday," hands-on children's workshops, through Dec. 23. 590 Main St., Spfd

Teal Artist Cooperative Gallery Local artists, through Dec. 28. 120 SW 4th St., Corvallis



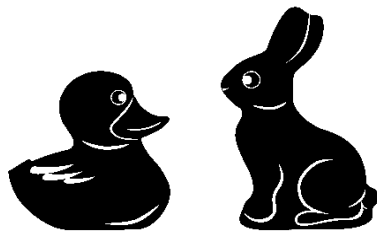
Japanese pop artist Chiho Aoshima's mural "Magma Spirit Explodes, Tsunami is Dreadful" is on view at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art

Territorial Vineyards Noel Dass' "Artanimals," paintings, through Dec. 30. 907 W. 3rd

Woodpecker's Muse "Personal Territories," multi-media works

by Sarah Refvem, through Jan. 31. 372 W. Broadway

WOW Hall Portrait painting by Taylor Warne, through Dec. 31. 8th & Lincoln



"Have you finished your shopping yet, Rabbit?" asked Chocolate Duck. "No, I haven't" said Rabbit. "I have one good friend left on my list." "Does this good friend love chocolate?" asked Duck. "Yes, very much so" replied Rabbit. "Ah, then, I think that Euphoria Chocolates would be a very good choice, indeed" said Duck. "Yes, I thought so, too" said Rabbit.



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17th and Willamette Bertelsen and Stewart

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Dec. 19th 5:30 PM TO 9:30 PM

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Find a complete schedule of the events at natural-history.uoregon.edu or call 541-346-3024.

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Pictured art by: Lynn Peterson, Sheila Roth, Karen Russo, Brooke Stone and Jason Priest

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HOWL 5:15, 7:15	7:15	7:15	3:00 7:15	7:15	ends tonight! 7:15	BLACK SWAN 5:00 7:25 9:45	5:00 7:25 9:45
The Girl Who Kicked The Hornets' Nest 7:30					ends tonight! 9:15		
INSIDE JOB 5:00 ends tonight!	WILLIAM S. BURROUGHS: A MAN WITHIN 5:30		5:30, 10:10	5:30, 10:10	ends tonight! 5:30, 10:10		
STRAIGHT TO HELL RETURNS 9:15 ends tonight!	LOVELY, STILL 5:15	12:15, 5:15	12:15, 5:15	5:15	5:15	7:30	7:30
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE 7:30			2:50, 7:30	7:30	7:30	4:45	4:45
DIE HARD 10:15		NOON 10:15	NOON	RARE EXPORTS: A CHRISTMAS TALE 10:00			
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CYRUS 7:40	EXIT THROUGH THE GIFT SHOP 9:25**	

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\$1.25 WEDNESDAY ALL SHOWS
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HEREAFTER PG13 12:45, 3:35, 7:05, 10:15 PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 2 R 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25 RED PG13 12:25, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 STONE R 12:05, 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20 ALPHA AND OMEGA PG 12:40, 2:55, 5:05, 7:25, 9:35 DESPICABLE ME PG 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 EASY A PG13 12:10, 2:25, 4:50, 7:30, 9:45	INCEPTION PG13 12:20, 3:40, 7:00, 10:10 LEGEND OF THE GUARDIANS: THE OWLS OF GAHOOLE PG 1:30, 3:50, 6:10, 8:30 LEGEND OF THE GUARDIANS: THE OWLS OF GAHOOLE 3D PG SPECIAL EVENT PRICING: \$2.00 UPCHARGE ALL TICKETS 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50 THE OTHER GUYS PG13 12:35, 4:00, 7:10, 9:40 SKYLINE PG13 12:15, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:05
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TRON: LEGACY (PG) ★ Fri. - Sun.(1025 130) 430 730 1030
HOW DO YOU KNOW (PG-13) Fri.(1050 145) 435 720 1020 Sat.(1015 AM 355 PM) 650 920 Sun.(1035 145) 435 720 1020
THE FIGHTER (R) - ID REQ'D Fri. - Sun.(1100 140) 425 715 1015
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER (PG) ★ Fri.(1255 PM 355 PM) 940 PM Sat.(1015 AM 355 PM) 650 PM Sun.(1255 PM 355 PM) 650 PM
CHRONICLES NARNIA: VOYAGE IN REALD 3D - EVENT PRICE (PG) ★ Fri. - Sun.(1045 125) 415 725 1005
THE TOURIST (PG-13) ★ Fri. - Sun.(1035 115) 405 655 955
BURLESQUE (PG-13) Fri. - Sun.(1010 105) 440 740 1025
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS 1 (PG-13) Fri. - Sun.(1110 220) 635 950
UNSTOPPABLE (PG-13) Fri. - Sun.735 PM 1005 PM
TANGLED (PG) Fri. - Sun.(1040 155) 435 705 935
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HOW DO YOU KNOW (PG-13) Fri. - Sun.(140) 440 730 1015
YOGI BEAR (PG) ★ Fri. - Sun.(200) 500 720 920
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TANGLED (PG) Fri. - Sun.(1250) 400 650 930

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THE TOURIST (PG-13) ★ Fri. - Sun.(115) 420 710 940
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS 1 - DP (PG-13) Fri. - Sun.(1245 350) 655 1000
127 HOURS (R) - ID REQ'D Fri. - Sun.(130 355) 645 930

Times For 12/17 - 12/19 © 2010 **www.REGmovies.com**

movies BY RICK LEVIN

The Parasite Inside
Documentary gives contour to Burroughs' life and work

WILLIAM S. BURROUGHS: A MAN WITHIN:
Written and directed by Yony Leyser. With Laurie Anderson, Jello Biafra, David Cronenberg, Thurston Moore, Iggy Pop, Gus Van Sant, Patti Smith and John Waters. Oscilloscope Laboratories, 2010. 74 minutes. ★★★★★

Gentleman junkie, militant queer, gun nut, Beat, godfather of punk, alcoholic, cat lover, genius, wife murderer, lonely old man and author of one of the most controversial and enduring novels of the 20th century — even before his death in 1997 at the age of 83, William Burroughs was a commodity ripe for appropriation, a palimpsest upon which to write and rewrite the most far-fetched claims. Burroughs is misunderstood as a matter of course, and often by his own design. Despite some 30-plus books with his name on the cover, including his seminal (and semen-spattered) debut *Naked Lunch*, it's likely he's been quoted far more than he's actually been read. Certainly, like Oscar Wilde, he was master of the exquisite aphorism: "We see God through our assholes in the flashbulb of orgasm," or "The face of evil is always the face of total need," or "Every man has inside himself a parasitic being who is acting not at all to his advantage." It's this latter ditty, characteristically autobiographical yet cryptic, that gives shape and texture to Yony Leyser's *William S. Burroughs: A Man Within*, the latest try at lassoing that cadaver-like presence once known by his Moroccan neighbors as *l'homme invisible*.

Unlike so many of the celluloid or literary efforts to pin Burroughs down — to romanticize, deify or debunk his outsized image — Leyser's documentary attempts to contextualize the artist, to give him back to the epochal setting from which he arose and which, to an astonishing degree, he helped define. *A Man Within* opens with Burroughs delivering one of his patented "routines" on death, thereby letting that croaking vaudeville of a nasally growl set the mood. The documentary then shuffles rapidly through a series of themed segments: the repressive '50s against which Burroughs

rebelled; his lifelong heroin habit; his influence on the culture at large (terms and names like "Steely Dan," "heavy metal" and "Blade Runner" are all his); his allegedly accidental shooting of his wife; the death of his son; his radically individualistic philosophy; and so on. Using an aesthetic similar to Burroughs' famous cut-up method, in which he'd take a scissor to pages of manuscript and realign the pieces to divine new meanings, the 74-minute film hops back and forth and over and around without ever losing sight of its fascinating subject. Neither does Leyser shy away from revealing Burroughs as palpably human — fallible, tormented, needy. In this sense, *A Man Within* goes a long way toward realigning Burroughs' over-determined persona so it is more in keeping with the reality of his life and times.

The documentary, as entertaining and enlightening as it is, has an air of testimony about it. Burroughs is allowed to speak for himself, via archival video and audio recordings, as are the many artists, hustlers and lovers who knew him personally or were influenced by his work: Patti Smith, Jello Biafra, David Cronenberg, John Waters, Laurie Anderson, Gus Van Sant, Thurston Moore (who, with Lee Renaldo, provides the soundtrack) and, among many others, the actor Peter Weller, who portrayed Burroughs in Cronenberg's *Naked Lunch* and who also narrates the documentary. The commentaries are candid and intelligent, often emphasizing how vulnerable, whip-smart and wickedly funny Burroughs could be. What emerges is the portrait of an artist who, with his gothic obsessions and addictions and his demonic carnival-barker delivery, had more in common with Edgar Allan Poe and P.T. Barnum than with Beats like Kerouac and Ginsberg. There was, indeed — and contrary to speculation — a man residing within that skeletal frame, not some alien or monster. Leyser brings that man back down to earth, where he belongs. **EW**

William S. Burroughs: A Man Within opens Friday, Dec. 17, at the Bijou.

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music

True Stuff for the True Believers

For KRVM DJ **Jivin' Johnny Etheredge**, now celebrating the 40th anniversary of his radio show, the music is still magic. Etheredge began his radio career in 1970 as a broadcasting student at LCC. His first assignment was to record a 60-second audio demo of his skills. "The instructor recorded a critique at the end of my tape that said, 'Well, John, you're welcome to stay in the class if you want to, but you obviously have no future in broadcasting,'" recalls Etheredge.

That teacher couldn't have been more wrong. Not only is Jivin' Johnny smooth and professional, his radio shows are perennial favorites. He began "Saturday Gold" on KLCC in 1970 with various hosts, and became the sole host in 1971. When the show shifted to KZEL in 1974, and later to Sunday nights, Etheredge no longer wanted to call it "Saturday Gold," but the name "Sunday Gold" was already taken by an album of popular gospel hymns. "I wanted people to know I was playing rock and roll, not 'Rock of Ages!' he says, "so I came up with 'Son of Saturday Gold.'" And that's what it's been called ever since. Etheredge also hosts two other KRVM shows: "Country Classics" on Saturday mornings (same time slot for 30 years) and "'60s Beat" on Monday evenings.

For Etheredge, born in 1951, the early roots rock by Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Fats Domino, Ray Charles, Bo Diddley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins and many others is timeless. "It's impossible to overlook the importance of what they did in the face of a record industry in the '50s that was virtually all white, corporate controlled and purveying some of the most insipid pop music you've ever heard," says Etheredge. "It was an explosion that couldn't be held back even though the establishment tried to hold it back." Jivin' Johnny Etheredge spins and The Tones (performing a capella doo-wop classics) appear at 8 pm Thursday, Dec. 16, at Mac's Restaurant and Night Club. 21+. Free. — *Vanessa Salvia*

Promiscuous Cyclops Blink

Considering the three Eugene rockers that make up **Dirty Wink** formed for a one-time gig at a Halloween party, it's safe to say that they've made a beautiful mountain out of a molehill. If it's possible to imagine Sublime jamming with Lenny Kravitz and Silversun Pickups then I guess you should go ahead and imagine it — that seems to be what these guys did.

Maybe you're thinking, "Whoa, that sounds nuts!"

I know, right? But it's the hybrid quality of Dirty Wink's sound that makes this shit fun. The best part is that they're really not trying to be anything other than what they are; all of them have the same basic taste in music, but each adds their own unique flavor to make the sound whole.

Their first full length is set to release — a wonderful milestone considering they've mainly been rocking house shows and bars up until now — and the album is just what you would expect. The production is sound and the songs flow well. At times I've found myself getting lost in the music entirely, with the gaps in between songs as nothing more than blips between the rock.

These guys are set to become a local powerhouse, so look out, Eugene.

Dirty Wink's CD release party with Kingdom County and Blast Majesty is at 10 pm on Friday, Dec. 17 at Luckey's. 21+. \$5. — *Andy Valentine*

The South Is Rising

When Luzelena Mendoza lost her faith, she started making music as **Y La Bamba**. This was a great swap, as those who've heard the band well know. "My temple has been compromised / I was meant to rise / six feet above my bed," laments Mendoza on "Juniper" from the band's sophomore release, *Lupon*. Although her loss of faith has inspired, more notable than anything else is her use of her *raices*, Mexican roots. As the daughter of immigrants from the southern state of Michoacan, Mendoza, in *Lupon*, revisits and rediscovers summers spent in the San Joaquin valley in her version of a kind of whimsical and rustic Mexican indie folk. Mendoza's vocals are perhaps the most astonishing dynamic of the band. Her high alto might remind you of Sierra Casady from Coco Rosie or a female version of Antony Hegarty. Mendoza blends her soft melodies with more experimental tracks like "Festival of Panic" that show off her vocal range and variation.



ALICIA J. ROSE

The cover of Y La Bamba's new album displays a picture of Mendoza's grandfather and points to the traditional Mexican sounds that she has harnessed and molded into a beautiful patchwork of indie folk. Fans of Devendra Banhart, Coco Rosie, The Besnard Lakes, Jose Gonzales or any soft, melodious, organic folk will be intrigued by Y La Bamba. Horse Feathers and Y La Bamba play at 9:30 pm Saturday, Dec. 18, at Sam Bond's Garage. 21+. \$8. — *Andrew Hitz*

Warm Music, Holiday Feelings

I'm going to give it to you straight-up, Eugene: Unless you're already donating time, money and/or goods to the Egan Warming Center, get your asses to the holiday reunion concert of **Misty River**, a band we used to see all the time but that took 2009 off (mostly) and toured just a little this year. Folk fans have missed the group's sound and live performances as the individual members dealt with health issues and worked on solo projects, so now's the chance to see the musicians and do some good at the same time.

Fiddler Chris Kokesh, whose lovely albums *October Valentine* and the EP *I Never Knew* stick around on my iTunes rotation, lives in Portland; Carol Harley (banjo and guitar) lives just north of Portland in Vancouver, Wash.; bassist Laura Quigley just moved to central Oregon, leaving accordionist Dana Abel as Eugene's only Misty, uh, Riverian — one reason we haven't seen them in a while. Their roots/Americana music fits with the warmth necessary in a winter season of hail, wind, driving rain and general unpleasantness.

The show at the First Christian Church, where the group performed last Thanksgiving, will give partial proceeds to the Egan Warming Center, also in the First Christian Church. The band's focus, not so surprisingly given the season, is "Harmony for the Holidays," what the press release describes as "a concert of traditional, original and seasonal songs from the folk, country and bluegrass traditions."

Misty River performs at 3:30 pm Sunday, Dec. 19, at the First Christian Church of Eugene, 1166 Oak St. \$16 adv. at CD World or mistyriver.com; \$20 day of show. Donations of warm, dry, clean clothing also welcome at the door. — *Suzi Steffen*

Beyond Guitars

Stretching instruments and genres



Everyone loves the cello's rich, soothing hot toddy voice, and the **Portland Cello Project** has proved that unlike prescription medication, more is better. The ensemble has been winning national recognition on NPR and elsewhere for its inventive arrangements (by UO alum Douglas Jenkins) of rock and pop tunes for multiple combinations of cellos and their collaborations with indie rockers in their hometown and beyond. Their concert at Cozmic Pizza on Dec. 16 includes a seasonal treat: excerpts from Benjamin Britten's enchanting *Ceremony of Carols* arranged for cellos, plus the usual unusual (for cellos) mix, including Kanye West covers, music by Tuneyards and more. Drew Grow (of the rising Portland band Drew Grow and the Pastors' Wives) will collaborate on several songs. Classical and indie pop types rarely converge at concerts these days, but both find plenty to cherish among the cellisti. On Dec. 20, Cozmic hosts another collection of unusual (for American rock clubs, anyway) instruments that will get your groove going: **Hokoyo Marimba** and friends.

If cellos and marimbas can rock, why not the infamous instrument that launched a thousand polkas? Seattle's **Jason Webley** periodically convenes an ever-changing aggregation of accomplice accordionistas who have been known to veer way beyond Welkian polka into klezmer, punk, Balkania, Japanese enka, cumbia, tango and odes to inebriation. On Friday, Dec. 17, at the WOW Hall, **Monsters of Accordion's** motley collection includes performers as celebrated for their bellowing vox as their bellowed boxes: San Francisco's **Renée de la Prade** (who punkishly purveys tunes from two great squeezebox traditions, Zydeco and Celtic music), the high-energy, L.A.-based Balkan music ensemble **Petrojvic Blasting Company**, New York's **Corn Mo** (who's played with They Might be Giants and Polyphonic Spree) and of course the huge voiced Webley himself. Cottage Grove's **Aeon Now!** opens. That scritch, wheezing sound you hear is Lawrence Welk rolling over in his grave.

These days, the instrument we most associate with rock is the guitar, but in fact long before the genre was a gleam in Ike Turner or Joe Turner or Chuck Berry's beady

eyes, Charlie Christian, Django Reinhardt and even earlier jazzers were improvising on their axes. This Thursday, Dec. 16, one of today's jazz guitar greats, Berkeleyite-turned-Jerseyite **Charlie Hunter**, brings his seven-string instrument, bass trumpeter Michael R. Williams and drummer Eric Kalb to Sam Bond's Garage to play music from his funky 2010 releases, *Gentlemen, I Neglected To Inform You You Will Not Be Getting Paid* (for trio, with a strong Stax vibe) and the new solo *Public Domain*. In the latter, though bereft of backup, he resists the urge to fill all the space, instead adeptly using silence and space as rhythmic elements, along with his percussive, heavily funkified stroke to create a sly, danceable groove on both originals and oldies (chosen by his centenarian grandpa) like "Cielito Lindo" (which some of us are still trying not to call the Frito Bandido song), "Ain't We Got Fun" (which Hunter might easily transform into a similar seasonal tune), "St. Louis Blues," "Alexander's Ragtime Band" and other century-spanning classics.

There's more jazz, this time of the homegrown variety, at Sam Bond's on Dec. 22 when the excellent Eugene tenor saxman **Joe Manis** (who's played with the Cherry Poppin' Daddies, Thomas Mapfumo and others) introduces his new band (guitarist William Marsh and drummer Kevin Congleton) in a free concert. If you can't make that one, you can hear Manis' trio late night on Dec. 16 at the Granary. And you can check out the next wave of young jazz talent on Dec. 30 at Cozmic Pizza when composer/trumpeter **Aaron Ward** and fellow UO, LCC and the other recent college grads and students of **NuGen Jazz** play Cozmic Pizza.

If you want to hear Christmas music you haven't heard a squillion times before, check out the great French Baroque composer Marc-Antoine Charpentier's *Midnight Christmas Mass* (based on popular carols of the time) and other Christmas music. You have two opportunities to hear the **UUCE Chamber Singers**, accompanied by appropriate instruments such as recorders, traverso flutes, lute, portative organ and strings, perform these stirring seasonal sounds: Saturday, Dec. 18, at 7 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 477 E. 40th, and Sunday, Dec. 19, at 3 pm at First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St. **EW**

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AXE & FIDDLE Musician's Spotlight w/Larry Barkemeyer-7; Variety, n/c
BLACK FOREST Dick Danger-10; Surf rock, n/c
CAFÉ MAROC Belly Dancing w/Regina Anne-7:15; n/c
CLUB SNAFU Sassy Mouff-10; DJ, n/c
COZMIC PIZZA Portland Cello Project-9; Strings, variety, \$10
COWFISH "Lime Night" w/DJ Heshe, Jon 7 & guests-9:30; Crunk, house
GRANARY PIZZA CO. Joe Manis-9; \$5
HOLE IN THE WALL BBQ David Lomond-6; Variety, n/c
JOHN HENRY'S 80's Night w/Chris, Dr. Ake & John-10; \$3
LAVELLE Brooks Robertson-5; Guitar, n/c
LUCKEY'S Sudden Anthem-10; Indie, \$3
MAC'S AT THE VET'S KRYM's "Son of Saturdays Gold Oldies" Party w/Johnny E, The Tones-8; Duo-wop, n/c
OVERTIME Tavern West Side Blues Jam-8; Open jam, n/c

RED LION INN Ladies Night w/DJ J-Will-8; Dance, mix, n/c
ROCKIN' RODEO Country Music Ladies Night-8; Country, n/c
SAM BOND'S Charlie Hunter Trio-9; \$18
SPIRITS Johnny Wilde-9; Rock, blues, n/c
WANDERING GOAT Dylan & Anthony-8; Acoustic duo, all ages, n/c

A TASTE GOURMET Lonesome Randall-6;
Rock historian, n/c
THE BEANERY Gordon Kaswell-7:30; n/c
BLACK FOREST NineDice, No Gentlemen-10;
Rock, n/c
CLUB SNAFU One Person's Junk Jewelry
Exchange-10; Swap party, dance, n/c
CORNUCOPIA BAR & BURGERS The Now
Trio-10; n/c
COZMIC PIZZA MEDGE w/Regina Anne-8:30;
Middle Eastern dance, \$5
COWFISH "FreeK" Nite w/the Audio
Schizophrenic & Guests-9; Electro, house,
n/c

CRESWELL COFFEE & WINE Barefoot Leroy-7; Rock, country, \$3
THE DISTRICT DJ Phoenix, DJ Scoot-10; Top 40, hip pop, n/c
DOC'S PAD DJ Ty-8; Dance mix, n/c
EUGENE CITY BREWERY Mr. Bill's Trivia Show-8; n/c
GOODFELLAS M80s, Joe Weber Project-9; '80s pop tribute, rock instrumentals, n/c
GRANARY PIZZA CO. Early Show: The Comforters-7, n/c; Acoustic Minds CD Release Party-9; \$5

LAVELLE Skip Jones-6; Blues, jazz, n/c
THE LOFT AT TURTLES Taste-8; R&B, soul, n/c
LUCKEY'S Dirty Wink, Blast Majesty,
 Kingdom County-10; Indie, rock, \$5
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Candy Apple Blue-
 9-30; '70s-'80s covers, \$4
MONROE ST. CAFE Erin Eichenberger &
 Seth Martin, The Bittersweet Moonshine
 Band-8; n/c
MULLIGAN'S Kickstand Carnival-9:30;
 Variety, n/c
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY The Essentials &
 Guests-9; Soul, R&B, n/c
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJ Diamond G & Rob
 Reynolds-9; \$3
SAM BOND'S Yeltsin, Unicorn-9; Rock, \$5
SAM'S PLACE Timothy Patrick-8; Acoustic
 humorist, n/c
THE SHEDD Irving Berlin's White
 Christmas-7:30; Variety, \$20-\$42
SIDE BAR "100 Years of Funny" w/Sarah
 Ulerick, Cody Smith, Randy Mendez-8:30;
 Live comedy, n/c
SPRINGFIELD VET'S CLUB Cowboy
 Cadillac-8; Country, rockabilly, n/c
TINY TAVERN Christie & McCallum-9:30;
 Americana, n/c
TWO FRIENDS PUB Flashback Friday-9; n/c
VET'S CLUB BALLROOM DJ Jose Cruz-10;
 Salsa, \$5
VILLAGE GREEN Down Side Up-9; Rock, n/c
WOW HALL Monsters of Accordion w/Jason
 Welyk, Renee de la Prade, Corn Mo, The
 Petrovjoy Blasting Co. & Aeon Now-9;
 Accordion, \$10/\$12
WANDERING GOAT The Kindreds, Melissa
 Ruth-9; Folk, n/c
YUKON JACK'S The Survivors-9; Rock, n/c

AX BILLY GRILL Kenny Reed Stone Cold Jazz-8; Jazz, n/c
B2 WINE BAR Early Show: Apropos-4; Blue Valentines-8; Rock, n/c
BLACK FOREST Station Wag, Splendor & the Resistance, Half Shark Half Jesus-9; Rock, n/c
CAFÉ MAROC Belly Dancing w/Sabine-6:45, 8; n/c
CLUB SNAFU DJ John the Revelator & guests-9:30; House, pop, n/c
CONWAYS Ladies Night-9; n/c
CORNUCOPIA BAR & BURGERS Maca Ray-10; n/c
COSMO CAFE Charlotte Thisle-6; Singer/songwriter, n/c
COWFISH "Sup!" w/Sassy Mouff, Michael Human & Guests-9:30; Top 40, electro, n/c
COZMIC PIZZA Walker T. Ryan, Al Rivers, Brian Valier-7:30; Acoustic blues, \$7
CRESWELL COFFEE & WINE Grace Mitchell-7; Singer/songwriter, \$2
DEADWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER Conjugal Visitors-6:30; Dinner, dance, don.
THE DISTRICT DJ Phoenix, DJ Scoot-10; Top 40, hip hop, n/c
DOC'S PAD DJ J-Will-8; Dance mix, n/c
GRANAZA PIZZA CO. Ali Losik-7; Singer/songwriter, n/c
THE LOFT AT TURTLES Inner Limits-7:30; Jazz, funk, n/c
LUCKEY'S Parti Band-10; Rock, \$3
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Bill Rhoades & The Party Kings-9:30; Blues, \$6
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Mood Area 52, Fancy Bandits, Cold Metal-9; Tango, cabaret, n/c
QUACKER'S The Valley Boys-8; Party rock, \$3
RABBIT HOLE Jean Grey, The Athiarchists-8; Rock, all ages, \$5
RATATOUILLE BISTRO Gus Russell-6:30; Jazz piano, n/c
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJ Diamond G-9; \$3

ASTORIA BAR Milepost, Coldwater Flat-
9:30; Rock, n/c

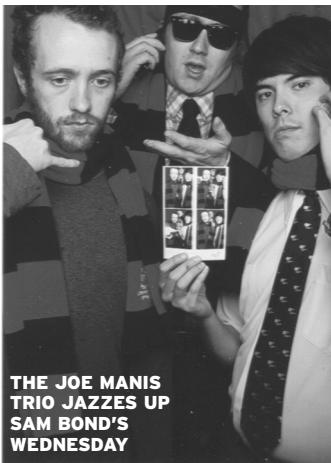
MONDAY	Taylor's (10)	THURSDAY	The Tankard (7)	Strike City (8)	Strike City (8)
The Astoria (9)	Two Friends Pub (9)	Axe & Fiddle (7)	Two Friends Pub (9)	Tapatio (9)	Tapatio (9)
Black Forest (9)	Village Inn (9)	The Cooler (10)	Village Green (9)	Tomahawk (9)	Village Inn (9)
Brew & Cue (9)	WEDNESDAY	Driftwood Bar (9)	Village Inn (9)	Village Inn (9)	White Horse Tavern
Country Side (8)	The Astoria (9)	Duck Inn (9)	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	(8:30)
Goodfella's (9)	Black Forest (9)	The Green Olive (8)	Driftwood Bar (9)	Driftwood Bar (9)	SUNDAY
Stadium Bar & Grill (9)	The City (9)	Happy Hours (8:30)	Eldorado (9)	Duck Inn (9)	Country Side (8)
TUESDAY	Cornucopia (9)	The Keg (9)	The Keg (9)	Mulligan's Pub (9)	Diablo's (9)
Country Side (8)	Country Side (8)	Mazenzi's Too (9)	The O Bar (9:30)	O'Donnell's (9)	Goodfella's (9)
Bugsy's (8)	Eldorado (9)	Mohawk Tavern (9)	O'Donnell's (9)	Pour House (9)	Noti Pub (7)
Diablo's (9)	Mohawk Tavern (9)	Oak St. Speakeasy (9)	OK Tavern (9)	Quacker's (9)	Our Place (8)
Doc's Pad (9)	Mulligan's Pub (9)	O'Donnell's (9)	Moon Upstairs (6)	Raven A Pub (9)	Prime Time (8)
Goodfella's (9)	Pour House (9)	OK Tavern (9)	Quacker's (9)	Red Lion Inn (9)	Rodeo Steakhouse (5)
Mohawk Tavern (8)	Rockin' Rodeo (9)	The Old Pad (9)	Raven A Pub (9)	Sam's Place (8)	Spirits (8)
The O Bar (9:30)	Village Inn (9)	Red Lion Inn (8)	Red Lion Inn (9)	Stadium Bar & Grill (9)	

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SAM BOND'S Early Show: 3 Way Street-6, n/c/
Horse Feathers, Y La Bamba-9; Folk, indie, \$8
THE SHEDD Irving Berlin's White
Christmas-7:30; Variety, \$20-\$42
SIDE BAR Deb Cleveland & The Vipers-10;
Blues, n/c
SPRINGFIELD VET'S CLUB Cowboy Cadillac-7;
Country, rockabilly, n/c
TWO FRIENDS PUB Ladies Night-9; n/c
VILLAGE GREEN Broh-Taylor Blues Band-9;
Blues, rock, n/c
WANDERING GOAT Kites & Crows-9; Indie folk, n/c
WOW HALL Elenora, Her Death & After, Forever
Ends Today, Tigress-8; Hard rock, \$7/\$8
YUKON JACK'S The Survivors-9; Rock, n/c

SUNDAY DEC. 19

BLACK FOREST Comedy Open Mic-9; n/c
COZMIC PIZZA Rob Tobias & the NW Express-7;
CD release, \$5
COWFISH Industry Night: '90s vs.
Everything-9:30; '90s hits, club hits, n/c
GRANARY PIZZA CO. Green Mt. Bluegrass
Band-6; n/c
JOHN HENRY'S Broadway Revue-10;
Burlesque, \$5
MULLIGANS Open Mic-8:30; n/c
PIZZA RESEARCH INSTITUTE Robert Meade-7;
Acoustic, R&B, n/c
TSUNAMI BOOKS Alison Helzer CD Release w/
Glen Waddell & Friends-5; Don.
TWO FRIENDS PUB Service Industry Night; n/c

VILLAGE GREEN Jay Schlotterbeck-7;
Christmas carols, guitar, n/c
VILLARD ST. PUB Bingo-7; \$1

MONDAY DEC. 20

BREW & CUE DJ Brady-9; n/c
THE CITY Movie Night-9; n/c
CORNUCOPIA BAR & BURGERS Trivia Night w/
Keith A-9; n/c
COZMIC PIZZA Hokoyo Marimba & Friends-7;
\$7-\$15
DOC'S PAD Skip Jones B3 Session-8; Jazz,
blues, n/c
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Big Money Bingo-8; n/c
GRANARY PIZZA CO. "Bohemia Night" w/Kenny
Reed Duo-7; Poetry open mic, live jazz, n/c
TWO FRIENDS PUB Movie Night-9; n/c
SAM BOND'S Bingo w/Tom Heintl and Scott K-9;
n/c

TUESDAY DEC. 21

AXE & FIDDLE Poetry Night-7; n/c
THE ASTORIA B.Y.O.V. vinyl listening party-
8:30; n/c
BLACK FOREST Rooster Blues Jam w/Skip
Jones-7:30; n/c
THE CITY iPod Night-6; n/c
CORNUCOPIA BAR & BURGERS Jesse Meade,
The Hepner Brothers-9:30; n/c
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Open Mic-7; n/c; Rock &
Roll Damnation-9; n/c
LUCKEY'S Ladies Night-10; Live music, \$2
MAX'S e. geek's Knowledge Knights-7:30; n/c

MC SHANE'S Tricycle races-9; n/c
SAM BOND'S Bluegrass Jam-9; n/c
SIDE BAR D&T Bingo Night-9; n/c
TWO FRIENDS PUB Trailer Park Tuesday; n/c
VILLAGE GREEN Deluxe Duo-7; Christmas car-
ols, blues, n/c

WEDNESDAY DEC. 22

COZMIC PIZZA "A Christmas Carol" w/Sir
ReadAlot-8; Dramatized reading, n/c
COWFISH "Hump Night" w/ DJ Foodstamp &
Guests-10; Hip hop, funk, disco, n/c
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Downtown Blues Jam-8;
n/c
EUGENE CITY BREWERY Bingo-7:30; n/c
EUGENE HILTON Timothy Patrick-6; Acoustic
humorist, n/c
JOHN HENRY'S DJ Kal El vs. DJ Tekneek-10;
Reggae vs. hip hop
KOHO BISTRO/AZUL Open Mic/UJAM2-7;
Variety, n/c, all ages
LUCKEY'S "The Wonderful Winter Show" w/
Samuel Ferris Harmon, Robert Meade, Scott
Austin & Jacob Young-10; Acoustic, perfor-
mance-based fiction, \$3
MAX'S Lonesome Randall-7; Rock-N-Roll histo-
rian, n/c
MONROE ST. CAFE Open Mic-7; n/c
MULLIGANS Open Mic-9; n/c
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Comedy Showcase-9;
Stand-up, n/c
PIZZA RESEARCH INSTITUTE King Toby, DJ
Crown & guests-7; Roots, dub, n/c

SAM BOND'S The Joe Manis Trio-9; Jazz, n/c
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Jazzy house, hip hop
VILLAGE GREEN Jay Schlotterbeck-7;
Christmas carols, jazz quartet, n/c

CORVALLIS, ETC

THE BEANERY
500 SW 2nd St.
SA Acoustic Showcase-8; n/c

BIG RIVER RESTAURANT
101 NW. Jackson Ave.
SA Three-fingered Jack-8:30

BOMBS AWAY CAFE
2527 NW Monroe Ave.
TH Curtis Monette & Friends-9; n/c
FR Jeremy D Experience-9:30; n/c
SA The Svens-8:30; n/c

CLOUD 9
126 SW 1st St.
SA Ala Nar w/Janikea-9; Middle Eastern
music, dance

FIREWORKS
1115 SE 3rd St.
MO Open Mic Talent Search-8; Variety

IMPULSE BAR & GRILL
1425 NW Monrow Ave.
WE Island Night-9:30; Reggae, n/c
FR Open Cuban Salsa Practice-7; Dance, n/c

CLUB GUIDE

AGATE ALLEY BISTRO 1461 E. 19th • 485-8887
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THE ASTORIA 2406 W. 11th • 465-2277
A TASTE GOURMET 270 W. 6th • Junction City
AX BILLY GRILL 999 Willamette St. • 494-4011
AXE & FIDDLE 657 E. Main St., Cottage Grove
B&B LOUNGE 213 Front St., Creswell • 895-3952
★ **BEANERY** 152 W. 5th • 342-3378
BLACK FOREST 50 E. 11th Ave. • 686-6619
B2 WINE BAR 2794 Shadow View Dr. • 505-8909
BREWERS' UNION PUB 48329 E. 1st St., Oakridge
BUGSY'S 559 Ivy, Junction City • 998-5185
CAFE MAROC 28 E. Broadway, Eugene • 344-6948
★ **CENTRO** 513 E. Main St., Cottage Grove
THE CITY 2222 MLK Jr. Blvd. • 343-4734
CLUB 420 420 Main St., Spfd • 747-4466
CLUB SNAFU 64 W. 8th Alley • 342-3272
CONWAY'S 5658 Main St., Spfd. • 741-6897
THE COOLER 20 Centennial Loop • 484-4355
CORNER BAR & GRILL 48292 E. 1st St., Oakridge • 782-3037
CORNUCOPIA BAR & BURGERS 207 E. 5th Ave. • 485-2676

COUNTRY SIDE 4740 Main St., Spfd. • 744-1594
COWFISH 62 W. Broadway
★ **COZMIC PIZZA** 199 W. 8th Ave. • 338-9333
★ **CRESWELL COFFEE & WINE**
116 Melton Rd., Creswell • 895-8860
DAVIS' 94 W. Broadway
DIABLO'S/DOWNTOWN LOUNGE 959 Pearl St. • 343-2346
THE DISTRICT 1290 Oak St. • 434-3387
DOC'S PAD 710 Willamette • 343-0224
DRIFTWOOD BAR & GRILL 5094 Main St., Spfd. • 988-4384
DUCK INN 1795 W. 6th Ave. • 302-9206
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LEGAL NOTICES

ANNUAL POSTING OF LANE COUNTY'S NAMES AND GROSS MONTHLY SALARY
Lane County publishes the names and gross monthly salary of all regular officers and employees occupying budgeted positions. This report can be located on the bulletin board of the county courthouse and at all public libraries in Lane County. Copies may be obtained for a fee from Lane County Financial Services, 125 E. 8th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97401, or by calling 541-682-4200.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of ROBERT LESLIE SMITH, Deceased. Case No. 50-10-26529 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed the Personal Representative of the said estate. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within FOUR (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative c/o Jane B. Stewart, Attorney at Law, 66 Club Road, Suite 200, Eugene, Oregon 97401, attorney for Personal Representative, or such claims may be barred. All persons

whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. DATED, and first published: December 9, 2010. Jane B. Stewart (OSB #753561) Attorney at Law, 66 Club Road, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone: (541) 342-6679. Fax: (541) 342-6683. Email: jabs@callatg.com. Gail E. Smith, Personal Representative, P.O. Box 8551, Coburg, OR 97408. Phone: (541) 686-8626.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE In the Matter of the Estate of Philip S. Skell, Deceased. No. 50-10-26710 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned personal representative at 1814 Suncatcher Way, Eugene, Oregon 97405, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative, Lawrence Deckman, at 2406 Lawrence Street, Eugene, Oregon 97405 (541) 731-1227. Dated and first published December 16,

2010. Victoria Anne SkellCef, Personal Representative.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN L. FLUENT Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 50-10-24970 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice is hereby given that TINA M. FLUENT has qualified and has been appointed as the personal representative of the Estate of JOHN L. FLUENT, Deceased, Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 50-10-24970. All claims against the estate are required to be presented to the Personal Representative, TINA M. FLUENT, c/o Don B. Dickman, P.C., Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 5682, Eugene, Oregon, 97405-0682, within four (4) months from December 2, 2010, the date of first publication of Notice, or such claims may be barred. Any person whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or Don B. Dickman, P.C., Attorney at Law, Don B. Dickman, P.C., Attorney, OSB No. 952507 (541) 485-6767

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Debra Mosher Adams has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Sherril Ann Cavallo by the Lane County Circuit Court in Case No. 50-10-25674. All persons with claims against the estate must present them to the personal representative in care of her attorney within four months from the date of first publication, or they may be barred. Additional

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Sudoku

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			4	1				
	5	7			2		6	
	4	2		7				
8			9		3		4	
4		5				8		6
	6		8		4			9
				3		6	2	
	1		6			9	5	
				9	5			

Place numbers 1-9 so that each row, column and 3x3 square has each number only once. There is only one solution. Good Luck! Stumped? Visit www.sudokuplace.com for a puzzle solver.

information may be obtained from the records of the court, the personal representative or her attorney. First published: November 9, 2010. Debra Mosher Adams, Personal Representative, c/o Sylvia Sycamore, OSB #001150, Sylvia Sycamore, P.C., 132 E. Broadway, Suite 410, Eugene, OR 97401

TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

The trust deed to be foreclosed pursuant to Oregon law is referred to as follows (the "Trust Deed"): Grantor: Linda Diane Lindsey. Trustee: Western Title & Escrow Company. Beneficiary: Service Employees of Lane County Credit Union, a State Chartered Credit Union. Date: June 3, 1999. Recording Date: June 18, 1999. Amount: \$81,000.00. Recording Reference: Reel 2558R, Reception No. 99-051487. County of Recording: Lane County. The Successor Trustee is Patrick L. Stevens and the mailing address of the Successor Trustee is: Patrick L. Stevens, Successor Trustee, Hutchinson, Cox, Coons, DuPriest, Orr & Sherlock, P.C., 777 High Street, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401. The Trust Deed covers the following described real property in the County of Lane and State of Oregon, ("the Property"):

THE SOUTH 65 FEET OF LOT 3, BLOCK 1, HARNDEN PLAT, AS PLATTED AND RECORDED IN BOOK 15, PAGE 26, LANE COUNTY OREGON PLAT RECORDS, IN LANE COUNTY, OREGON. Commonly known as 99 Horn Lane, Eugene, OR 97404, APN: 0429686. Both the Beneficiary and the Trustee have elected to sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by said trust deed and an Notice of Default has been recorded pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes 86.735(3); the default for which the foreclosure is made is Grantor's failure to pay when due the following sums: The monthly installment payments of \$532.11 beginning August 1, 2009 and continuing through the installment due August 3, 2010, plus interest and late charges; real property taxes, plus interest and penalties; and other liens and penalties. Total default as of August 3, 2010 is \$7,236.75. By reason of said default, the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the trust deed immediately due and payable, those sums being the following to wit: \$66,272.13, together with the sum of \$5,449.04, which represents unpaid contractual interest and late charges through August 3, 2010, together with interest on the principal sum

of \$66,272.13 at the rate of 6.875% per annum from August 1, 2009 until paid, together with insurance paid by the Beneficiary on the property, late charges and penalties, trustee fees, attorney fees, foreclosure costs, and any sums advanced by the Beneficiary pursuant to the trust deed. The date, time and place of the sale is: Date: February 28, 2011. Time: 11:00 o'clock a.m. Place: Lane County Courthouse, 125 E. 8th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon. NOTICE TO TENANTS If you are a tenant of this property, foreclosure could affect your rental agreement. A purchaser who buys this property at a foreclosure sale has the right to require you to move out after giving you notice of the requirement. If you do not have a fixed-term lease, the purchaser may require you to move out after giving you a 30-day notice on or after the date of the sale. If you have a fixed-term lease, you may be entitled to receive after the date of the sale a 60-day notice of the purchaser's requirement that you move out. To be entitled to either a 30-day or 60-day notice, you must give the Trustee of the property written evidence of your rental agreement at least 30 days before the date first set for the sale. If you have a fixed-term lease, you must give the Trustee a copy of the rental agreement. If you do not have a fixed term lease and cannot provide a copy of the rental agreement, you may give the Trustee other written evidence of the existence of the rental agreement. The date that is 30 days before the date of the sale is January 29, 2011. The name of the Trustee and the Trustee's mailing address are listed on this notice. Federal law may grant you additional rights, including a right to a longer notice period. Consult a lawyer for more information about your rights under federal law. You have the right to apply your security deposit and any rent you prepaid toward your current obligation under your rental agreement. If you want to do so, you must notify your landlord in writing and in advance that you intend to do so. If you believe you need legal assistance with this matter, you may contact the Oregon State Bar and ask for the lawyer referral service. Contact information for the Oregon State Bar is included with this notice. If you have a low income and meet federal poverty guidelines, you may be eligible for free legal assistance. Contact information for where you can obtain free

legal assistance is included in the next paragraph. There are government agencies and nonprofit organizations that can give you information about foreclosure and help you decide what to do. For the name and phone number of an organization near you, please call the statewide phone contact number at 1-800-SAFENET (1-800-723-3638). You may also wish to talk to a lawyer. If you need help finding a lawyer, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636 or you may visit its Website at: <http://www.osbar.org>. Legal assistance may be available if you have a low income and meet federal poverty guidelines. For more information and a directory of legal aid programs that provide legal help to individuals at no charge, go to <http://www.oregonlawhelp.org> and <http://www.osbar.org/public/ris/lowcostlegalhelp/legalaid.html> RIGHT TO CURE The right exists under ORS 86.753 to have this foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by doing all of the following at any time that is not later than five days before the date last set for the sale: (1) Paying to the Beneficiary the entire amount then due (other than such portion as would not then be due, had no default occurred); (2) Curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the Trust Deed; and (3) Paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the Obligation and Trust Deed, together with Trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amounts provided by ORS 86.753. In construing this notice, the singular includes the plural, the word "Grantor" includes any successor in interest to the Grantor as well as any other person owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by the Trust Deed, and the words "Trustee" and "Beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. We are a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information we obtain will be used to collect the debt. Cashier's checks for the foreclosure sale must be payable to the Beneficiary. Selco Community Credit Union. Dated: October 14, 2010. /s/ Patrick L. Stevens Patrick L. Stevens, Successor Trustee, Hutchinson, Cox, Coons, DuPriest, Orr & Sherlock, P.C., P.O. Box 10886, 777 High Street, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone: (541) 686-9160. Fax: (541) 343-8693. Date of First Publication: December 16, 2010. Date of Last Publication: January 6, 2010.

ASK A MEXICAN!

BY GUSTAVO ARELLANO



Dear Mexican: Some-one wrote you a while back wondering why Mexicans have made a mess of their beautiful country. You got all bent out of shape because he called Mexico a Third World country instead of a "bottom tier" First World country. I think you missed the point of the argument. Mexico should be much better any way you look at it. The only explanation I can think of is Mexico has a defective culture and the Mexicans bring it with them wherever they go – not at first, mind you, when they are in the minority, but after they reach close to the majority.

All you have to do to prove my view is look at New Mexico, the only state in the United States that is 50 percent Mexican. Look at the dropout rate, crime rate, political corruption rate, illegitimate birth rate, etc. This is all in spite of the fact that New Mexico receives more money per person back for the federal government than any other state; it is still near the bottom of all the states in per-capita income. No amount of money can correct a defective culture.

Do the rest of us a favor and stop breeding. I know you can't do that because of your defective culture, so when Armageddon comes it will be fought between the Mexicans with their pants down and Moslems with their robes up. Should be one hell of an event.

– Chief Afraid-to-Use-Name

Dear Gabacho: Hello — NAFTA? American capitalism demand for cheap Mexican labor, which stunts Mexican economic growth by depriving it of workers? And why the Land of Enchantment hate? Give me its Blake's Lotaburgers, its Hatch Chile Festival, a smothered burrito Christmas-style, and the Santuario de Chimayó any day over whatever dump you call *casa*. You also forgot to mention that New Mexico suffers one of the highest DWI rates in *los Estados Unidos* — but what does any of this have to do with Mexican culture? Sure, New Mexico ranks 43rd in per-capita income, but that's still much ahead of decidedly *gabacho* states such as Kentucky, West Virginia and South Carolina. New Mexico places fifth-highest in terms of states getting federal *pesos* back—but ever figure its because of all those elderly *gabachos* and their Medicare and government facilities like the Los Alamos labs that suck up that cash? Poverty has nothing to do with ethnic culture — and if you think so, please point out for me the Mexicans in *Let us Now Praise Famous Men*. Oh, and New Mexico is 45 percent Latino — and a *chingo* of them come from families that arrived before Mexico. Black Legend that, *pendejo*.

Last year I went to Chihuahua and noticed the Mexicans I was traveling with said *gras* – like a shortened version of *gracias*. Is this a common thing? Can I say it?
– Currently Hot Unlike Loser Assholes

Dear CHULA: I've never heard of *gras* — sounds like a *fronchi* conspiracy to me — but the linguistic phenomenon behind it is as common to Mexican Spanish as tamales are for *Navidad*. Elision is the process by which speakers drop vowels, consonants and even syllables over time to make pronouncing a word easier. It's a natural evolution of language, but Mexican Spanish seems to favor it more than American English (which loves its contractions but has little love for elision). Of course you can elide, CHULA! Turn *para* into *pa'*, Santa Ana into SanTana, *pues* to *pos*, Vicente to Chente, *papa* to 'apa—and then go truly baroque by shortening *vete a la chingada* to 'ta la chinga'! Sure, the custodians of Cervantes will sneer, but they haven't mattered since ... well, ever.

GOOD MEXICANS OF THE WEEK! The Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP) is one of those tireless organizations that simultaneously battle issues affecting Mexicans while also teaching cultural awareness. They're celebrating their 30th anniversary this year, and the best way to support them is buying a copy of their landmark *500 Años del Pueblo Chicano/500 Years of Chicano History*, a Mexi version of *A People's History of the United States*, but even more radical. More info at swop.net, and *la lucha sigue!*

Ask the Mexican at themexican@askamexican.net, be his fan on Facebook, follow him on Twitter or ask him a video question at youtube.com/askamexicano/

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Jethro
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Jonesin' Crossword BY MATT JONES

"Flat Tops" -- making a certain letter less...pointy

Across

- 1 Nine-to-five
- 4 Yes, in Yokohama
- 7 Ovens, so to speak
- 12 "Burn Notice" channel
- 13 "Rolling Stone" co-founder Wenner
- 14 Newswoman Mitchell
- 16 Guy who knows his cake pans?
- 18 Seesaws, really
- 19 "Cheers" actor George attending a Massachusetts college?
- 21 "Stop, horse!"
- 23 Hits a bicycle horn
- 24 Pond fish
- 25 Opera singer Enrico
- 27 Accomplishes
- 30 Barrett once of Pink Floyd
- 31 Native

- 34 Physicist Mach who coined the term "Mach number"
- 35 End-of-the-day payment-fest?
- 37 Surround
- 40 With perfect timing
- 41 Ram noise
- 44 Turkish city that housed the Temple of Artemis
- 46 Some fish catchers
- 48 Gp. that provides road maps
- 49 Religious offshoots
- 52 "___ Small Candle" (Roger Waters song)
- 53 Richard Pryor title character with a big German dot on him?
- 57 Nissan model
- 58 One-legged maneuver for those chocolate balls?
- 61 Rembrandt's city of birth

Down

- 1 Protrude
- 2 Suffix for sugars
- 3 It gets bleeped
- 4 Wrench or screwdriver
- 5 "___ the republic for which it stands..."
- 6 Split ___
- 7 Market sign?
- 8 Scott Turow bestseller
- 9 1506, in Roman numerals
- 10 Get past the lock
- 11 Sunday deliveries
- 13 Page 6, on some calendars: abbr.

- 15 Court stat
- 17 Gentleman friend
- 20 Leaning type type
- 21 Lavs
- 22 Bale stuff
- 26 Tiny openings
- 28 Little giggle
- 29 Degas display, e.g.
- 32 Nine Inch Nails hit with the freaky video
- 33 Gothic novelist Radcliffe
- 35 Honey Nut Cheerios mascot
- 36 "Well, there goes that option..."
- 37 "C'mon, help me out here!"
- 38 Shoulder decoration
- 39 Word repeated in T.S. Eliot's "The Wasteland"
- 41 Wraparound greeting
- 42 Free throw path
- 43 Volcano spew
- 45 Obviously-named American financial giant
- 47 Super-cool computer geek language
- 50 "People" newsmaker
- 51 Spin around
- 54 2000 Radiohead album
- 55 U.S. Treasury agents
- 56 End zone scores, briefly
- 59 Inseparable
- 60 Poker stakes

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(editor@jonesincrosswords.com)

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S

LUBED SSW LASH
ENERO HEH ALOE
AIMFOR EPIPHANY
BLOODSPATTER
FAVREAU EEE EPA
ANEIO BATHWATER
BIO SID AERATE
ANKARA BUS CSC
BIOMATTER PARKA
CBS REA EARLIER
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GET OUT OF YOUR RENTAL. Tenor saxophone plays very well. Semi-pro horn in good condition, does not need new pads. No dents on horn. Serial # 31xxx. Has engraving on the bell & gold lacquer. Comes with Pro Tec soft carrying case. \$675. Owned by local professional musician. 541-746-6222

MUSIC

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

FAT AND QUIET

Lane student. 420 friendly. Let's blaze that shit up. Fat but pretty cute. At least I think so anyway. Reading, acting, movies, TV, music. Tattoos and piercings a plus. **thebeatlesdarling**, 18, ☎, #105824

FILL THE WONDER

me and my freind are looking for a man to join us and have sum fun...im 36 he is 22. **jenswood**, 36, ☎, #105786

NIGHT_NURSE_LIVING_WELL

I am looking for someone to show me how to have fun again. I am looking for a new adventure, lots of fun and friendship. **af1zab3th**, 21, ☎, #105781

FUNNY SULTRY NERD

Sweet & sexy Southern belle looking for a real connection. Fairly flighty, yet down to earth. Courtship is a lost art and hope to find a real artist. **HappyNurseSarah**, 33, ☎, #105777

HAPPY, JOYOUS, INDEPENDENT

I love life, but think that adding male companionship would make it more amazing. Spontaneity and fly by the seat of your pants variety preferred. I want to meet You! **NU2U**, 49, ☎, #105773

JEZZ

I like honesty, being comfortable, laughter is important and having fun. Life is already so tense being able to relax once in a while is a talent and must. **Jezz**, 23, ☎, #101976

HAPPY, ENERGETIC, PLAYFUL.....

I laugh easily and want someone who can truly have fun. I enjoy theater, cooking, gardening, dancing and traveling. Looking for someone spirited and humorous with a sense of autonomy. **Tiny_Dancer**, 59, #105762



WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

LOOKIN4 SUMTHIN NEW

lookin 4punk or pierced or tatted bifemale who enjoys fine/funky things, havin fun, enjoyin life&just being, im 35bisexual,an awesome baker&chef, hot body, free-spirited&passionate who enjoys all that life is. **Out_of_the_Blu**, 35, ☎, #105771

BLONDE AND INTELLIGENT

I'm a confident person who loves to be with other people. I try to be nice to the people around me. I like to do random things, and find adventures. **kelandry4157**, 18, ☎, #105724

LITTLEMISSFUNSHINE:)

i'm a cat loving stoner, with a great body! love dressing up, i have a boyfriend but this is for me, i would like to hang out and get to know a nice pretty girl.. **ashliemae91**, 19, #105720

SHY, CREATIVE, BORED

I'm a 20 year old, inquisitive, yet brutally shy girl, looking for another girl close to my age, with similar interests to start a relationship/friendship with. **Stitch_113**, 20, ☎, #105626

RED MEAT

restive rivulets of revulsion

from the secret files of Max Cannon



WANTED: PRINCESS CHARMING.

Femme SWF looking for Butchie SWF for cuddles, kisses, and LTR. Must have a sense of humor and core personal values like honesty. Must like a curvy gurl. **J21Stratton**, 23, ☎, #105487

LOUD,FUN AND HOT

looking for a fun, hot girl to hang out with and have some fun.I'm a 29 year old female who loves women. i'm very outgoing and love trying new things. **Kiss-fan80**, 30, ☎, #105257



MEN SEEKING WOMEN

STARTIN OVER AGAIN

Hello live turned my life around and removed most of the toxic people in it, but I forgot how to add the good ones. **ADDEM**, 39, ☎, #105828

HOME MADE

Plastic, car centric, myspace, lying trick'n??? GO AWAY! home grown, organic, hard work, farms, animals, plants, good food, happiness, wake early, work, honesty??? COME STAY! **botanica**, 23, #104585

KINDHEARTED.

I'm a good friend. A bit of a fool. I am intelligent but not very focused. I tend to live by the moment yet I have finished college. **Here_again**, 29, ☎, #105821

BOMBASTIC, PEDANTIC, PUNK

Must love literature, philosophy and science. Debate is a favorite pastime. Last minute trips to anywhere-anytime. Knowledge of politics and history required, strong opinions on every subject is preferred. **Ed_Finnerty**, 25, #105793

420 BEARDED SMARTASS

Recent transplant still trying to get settled. Looking for women primarily. (Anyone 420 related) Open, honest and intelligent. Quite and sensitive or naughty deviant. Prefer a mix of both. **HashDemon**, 35, #105778

FUNNY ARTSY TRANSPLANT

Looking for a local to sort me out, show me around and see where it goes... Music, plays, museums, galleries, good conversation and most of all, fun. **Newgeneian**, 40, ☎, #105768

HONEST AND FUN

Free spirit, honest, and fun loving. Totally my own person. I love to fish, boat, and RV. I love intellectual conversation. **Vagabond**, 59, #105767

RACCOON MISFIT 4AFTERGLOW?

Tall, strong, handsome, kind Just lost someone. Sex is bomb + I'm good at it. Be pretty + Be Experienced. 2much mascara/ racoon eyeliner a plus. In fact, be an alleycat. **spaztastique**, 31, ☎, #105481

FUN LOVING DUDE

So i am 24 full time cook i love my job and enjoy working everyday, i like to stay fit by riding my bike everyday. I love music. **ashaun**, 23, ☎, #105754



JUST FRIENDS

FUNNYCOUNTRYBOY

Looking for someone that would like to hang out and see where things go.Currently not going to school right now,just working full time.I don't really know what else to say. **Arkleone**, 22, ☎, #105647

AM I GREEDY?

When it comes to love, yes. Happily married w/ kids, but the seeking new friends and experiences (with permission). If you can get over my situation, we could have fun. **north_of_normal**, 34, ☎, #105520

LOOKING FOR FRIENDS

SWM, 47 years of age, 5'7", 220 pounds, brown hair and green eyes. never married, no children. Am looking for SWF's between 21 and 40 for friendship and possible dating. **tallenlark63**, 47, ☎, #105513

HONEST, SWEET, HARDASS

Moved from Lancaster city, PA. I love loving and being with people. learning, talking, herb, forests, art, music, analyzing, sustainability (fuck industrialization). I want open relationships. I'm bi. **sleepingwbooks**, 20, ☎, #105401



I SAW YOU

PAINTED HORSE

This Nanookt is actually a planet. Is Painted Horse actually a 'Tom'? Let me know either way. Thanks. Blessings. **When: Sunday, December 5, 2010. Where: LCC. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901889**

ICE CREAM MAN

You: Drove an ice cream truck last summer. Sold me a dripping fudgesicle. Me: Student journalist hoping to write about your line of work. Let's talk over some Puckler's. **When: Friday, August 6, 2010. Where: residential streets. You: Man. Me: Man. #901892**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BEAN

I still love you with all my heart. Hope all is well. Real easy to find if you wish. Always your Bear. **XOXOXO When: Wednesday, December 15, 2010. Where: Forever in my soul. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901891**

OUTLAWS ARE SWEET.

Outlaw, our life together is blissful. I'm glad I listened to the animals and my own heart, finally. Te amo mi corazon. **Princess Leigh Cheri. When: Sunday, November 21, 2010. Where: By my side. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901890**

BRIGHTEYES

You bring such joy to my life I strive to bring you such joy I treasure our time together May it stretch into years I trust you with my heart **When: Friday, May 28, 2010. Where: EWS. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901889**

SIX YEARS LATER

Relief requested: Maximum distance permitted by law. Date of expiration: Permanent. **When: Sunday, December 5, 2010. Where: no contest. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901888**

COACH DIMPLES

I saw your gorgeous dimples on the sidelines. I like you handsome, even if you are from the Berg! GO TEAM! **When: Friday, December 10, 2010. Where: LCC. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901887**

TAURUS + TAURUS=

i like you. and the way you manipulate words like art. your verbage gives mine a run for its money. touche big bro. i miss you. **When: Sunday, December 5, 2010. Where: space dreams. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901886**

MUSICAL NOTE SWEATSHIRT

You having a beer before the bluegrass jam. We made eyes but i wasn't sure if one of your friends was a sweetheart so didn't approach. Come back next Tuesday **When: Tuesday, December 7, 2010. Where: Sam bonds garage. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901885**

MY FAVORITE....

I said I didn't want to get serious & thought you wanted that too. I'm addicted to your kisses, bites, touch, sleeping in ur arms. How about out that vino? **When: Sunday, November 28, 2010. Where: Your place. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901884**

free will astrology

BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): I vividly remember seeing singer Diamanda Galas in concert. Though classically trained, she didn't confine herself to mellifluous melodies and elegant tones. She was a whirlwind of elemental sound, veering from animalistic bellows to otherworldly chants to operatic glossolalia. It was all very entertaining, and often enjoyable. The skill with which she shaped the sound as it escaped her body was prodigious. My companion and I agreed that "she made your ears convulse and your eyes writhe and your skin prickle – but in a good way." How would you feel about inviting some similar experiences into your life, Aries? The astrological omens suggest this would be an excellent time to seek the rowdy healing that only disciplined wildness can provide.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Here's a haiku-like poem by Cor van den Heuvel: "the little girl/ hangs all the ornaments/ on the nearest branch." My comment: It's cute that the girl crams all the decorations onto one small section of the tree, and maybe her parents will keep them that way. But I recommend that you take a different approach as you work to beautify and enliven your environment. Spread out your offerings; distribute your blessings equally; make sure that everything in need of invigoration gets what it requires.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): This is a good time to go in search of any secrets you've been hiding from yourself. I suggest you also try to track down the "missing links" that aren't really missing but rather are neglected. My advice is similar for the supposedly "lost treasure" you're wondering about: Clues about its whereabouts are lying around in full view for anyone who is innocent enough to see them. P.S. Being uncomplicated isn't normally your strong suit, but this is one of those rare times when you'll have an aptitude for it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In the TV comedy series *Arrested Development*, Buster Bluth was an adult character who was a bit over-attached to his mother. It seemed to have to do with the fact that he lingered in her womb for 11 months before agreeing to be born. The obstetrician claimed "there were claw marks on her uterus." I want to be sure you don't make a comparable misstep in the coming weeks, Cancerian. It really is time for you to come out and play. Ready or not, leave your protective sanctuary and leap into the jangly, enchanting tumult.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): I have imaginary friends who help me. And yes, they sometimes even give me ideas for your horoscopes. Are you OK with that? Among the many other perks my secret buddies provide, they show me where my cell phone and car keys are when I've misplaced them – a prime sign of their practical value. What's your current status in regards to imaginary friends, Leo? Do you even have any? This would be an excellent time to seek them out and put them to work. In fact, I encourage you to do anything that might attract the

input of undiscovered allies, behind-the-scenes collaborators, mysterious guidance, and divine assistance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Might there be a message for you in the mist on the window? Can you find a clue to the next phase of your destiny by scanning a newspaper that the wind blows against your leg as you're walking? Be alert for the undertones, Virgo. Tune in to the subtexts. Scan the peripheries for the future as it reveals itself a little early. You never know when the hidden world might be trying to slip you a tip. You should be alert for the deeper storylines weaving themselves just below the level where the supposedly main plot is unfolding.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A musician who records under the name of Shamantis took Justin Bieber's silly pop tune "U Smile," and slowed it down 800 percent. The new work was a 35-minute-long epic masterpiece of ambient electronica that *The New York Times* praised as "ghostly" and "oceanic." More than two million people tuned in to hear it on the Internet. Might there be a comparable transformation in your future, Libra? From an astrological perspective, it's prime time for you to transform a pedestrian exercise into a transcendent excursion, or a trivial diversion into an elegant inspiration, or a meaningless entertainment into a sublime learning opportunity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): More than a few wildlife films use deception to fool the audiences into thinking they're watching animals in the wild. So says Chris Palmer, a producer of many such films. "One classic trick involves hiding jellybeans in carcasses," he told *New Scientist*. "If you see a bear feeding on a dead elk in a film, you can be pretty sure that the bear was hired from a game farm and is looking for sweets hidden in the carcass by the filmmakers." I suspect you will encounter a metaphorically comparable ruse or switcheroo sometime soon, Scorpio. It'll be your job to be an enforcer of authenticity. Be on the lookout for the jellybeans.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): My favorite news source, *The Onion*, reported on a proposed law that would prohibit marriage between any two people who don't actually love each other (Onion.com/LoveLaw). Couples whose unions are rooted in mutual antipathy or indifference are of course protesting the plan, insisting that they have as much of a right to wed as those who care for each other deeply and treat each other tenderly. Whether or not this proposal becomes a formal part of the legal system, Sagittarius, I urge you to embrace it. In fact, I'll go so far as to ask you not to do *anything at all* unless you are at least somewhat motivated by love. The coming months will be a time when your success will depend on your ability to rise to new heights of compassion, romance, eros, tenderness, empathy, and affection.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Let's imagine we're fifth-century monks living in the land that today is known as the south of France. And let's say we decide we're going to build a chapel in a place that has long been a pagan shrine dedicated to the moon goddess Selene. Shouldn't we consider the possibility that our new house of worship may be imbued with the vibes of the previous sanctuary? Won't our own spiritual aspirations be colored by those of the people who for hundreds of years poured forth their devotions? Now shift your attention to the present day, and apply our little thought experiment to what's going on in your life. Tune in to the influences that may be conditioning the new thing you'd like to create.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I would like to steal your angst, Aquarius. I fantasize about sneaking into your room tonight, plucking your nightmares right out of the heavy air, and spiriting them away. I imagine sidling up to you on a crowded street and pickpocketing your bitterness and frustration -- maybe even pilfering your doubts, too. I wouldn't keep any of these ill-gotten goods for myself, of course. I wouldn't try to profit from them in any way. Instead, I would donate them to the yawning abyss, offer them up to the stormy ocean, or feed them to a bonfire on a primal beach. P.S. Even though I can't personally accomplish these things, there is now a force loose in your life that can. Are you willing to be robbed of things you don't need?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In 2011, I bet that memory won't play as big a role in your life as it has up until now. I don't mean to say that you will neglect or forget about the past. Rather, I expect that you will be less hemmed in by the consequences of what happened way back when. You'll be able to work around and maybe even transcend the limitations that the old days and the old ways used to impose on you. Your free will? It will be freer than maybe it has ever been. Your creative powers will override the inertia of how things have always been done.

HOMEWORK: What do you foresee happening in the world in 2011? What do you predict for your own life? Write Truthrooster@gmail.com.

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

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CraftyGirl, 27, 📧, 📧, **#105791**

DISCREET FUN
I'm an attractive, single mom looking for discreet fun...would enjoy an attractive, dominant, personality as i tend to 2 b more submissive...send me a msg and lets chat!
Sammi, 43, 📧, 📧, **#105766**

UNPREDICTABLE HUNGRY-STRIPER PROWLING
My honey-pot is low and needs something sticky. Submissive at times, but this cowgirl can ride. Preferably a bucking bronco :-). I'm a saucy whench boys, I need spanking.
AlainaFuck, 21, **#105484**



WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

HOT BI-GIRL
lookin 2meet a hot, spunky, fun-loving, punk/goth, pierced/tattooed girl- &a bit submissive, who enjoys life... preferably between the ages of ~19-29- NO DRAMA, NO HARD DRUGS/HEAVY DRINKERS& DEFINITELY NO DISEASES.
Lellabel, 35, 📧, 📧, **#105770**



MEN SEEKING WOMEN

MATURE MASTERFUL ARTIST
Good looking fat man with a ravenous appetite for sensual pleasure. Skilled orally , with my hands--G spot and pussy massage-- and a thick hard 7 shooter for your enjoyment.
whitegorilla, 43, 📧, 📧, **#105825**

LOOKING 4 FUN
Confident cute funny outgoing.
mikewatts84, 26, 📧, 📧, **#105820**

I WANNA LICK
Good Times Only. **Duckfan**, 34, **#105819**

RUFFNREADY!
The seven year vow of celibacy is over! whew, and not a day too soon...can u handle it?
Ruffnready, 53, **#105817**

NEVER ENDING NEEDS
Im very open minded and love to please. I have no problem cumming multiple times. I want you to scream, moan, bite me, scratch me and come multiple times.
thekinks, 27, 📧, 📧, **#105812**

LONG AND TALL
just need something new to play with).
long4u, 22, 📧, 📧, **#105806**

FRESH FROM CALI
Hey im Derek!! Just moved up from cali looking to meet a beautiful woman, someone fun exciting, down to earth to hang out with, new to the area!
DerekD, 27, 📧, 📧, **#105805**

SEASONED SEXY SENTIMENTAL
Proud survivor of the Sex, Drugs, and Rock 'n' Roll era, seeking free-thinking partner(s) for discrete sex-play. I am a sucker for all things "girlish", small breasts, and flat tummies.
BoBilly, 63, 📧, 📧, **#105787**

LEAVE YOUR PANTIES
Wear your best VS Cheeky panties, stockings,over the knee socks, crotchless fishnets. leave them on tug 'em to the side and thin hoodies w/o a bra...perfect! Dress up and play.
PurpleCckRing, 35, **#105783**



MEN SEEKING ...

ISO OF FUN
looking for some great fun, if you are looking for some hot fun, let hook up.
angelsxluv, 43, 📧, 📧, **#101585**

SEX,SEX,SEX
need sex now. 1 on 1,couples groups. will even try the bi thing if there is a woman involved. ready to explore and grow. pleasure only. no drama.
stiffone35, 38, 📧, 📧, **#105727**

GOOFY POLY SHY
I'm a quirky guy who likes a good story and the outdoors. In an open committed relationship. Looking for men women couples for friendship, dating or more.
salamander, 27, 📧, 📧, **#105690**



COUPLES SEEKING ...

FANTASYFULFILLMENT
22/23 m/f couple. Searching for 18/25 f/m/fm. We're looking to have some new friends with some cool bennifits. Tatts, peircings, 420 friendly, cig's.
CurtnCass420, 22, 📧, 📧, **#105826**

COMMITTED NON-MONOGAMOUS PARTNERS
We are looking for mature fun, NO DRAMA!!! have a very intense libido, she is a scream'n HELP!! We would love to meet like minded people and socialize and PLAY.
CNMP, 38, 📧, 📧, **#105811**

LOVING COUPLE
Loving, and Earthy couple seeking new encounters with poly, and family friendly folks under 40. Friendly, sexy fun?
Stargazinglilly, 25, **#105816**



OTHER

TGIRL FOR FUN!
I am looking for FWB who would like to play with a Tgirl that has titties, but still has males parts. I like big boobies and big hard cocks.
Nadja2012, 35, 📧, 📧, **#105809**

Savage Love



WORDS OF PURE WISDOM by Dan Savage

I am a 33-year-old married male who has a WAM – wet and messy – fetish. I'm into mud and clay. I have played with various substances in the bathroom by myself over the years. It always ends with me masturbating myself into oblivion, wishing there were someone with me so we could sensuously rub against each other, etc., until we both climax. But I'm always alone!

I was always too shy to share this fetish with anyone until three years ago, when I told the woman I've now been married to for two years. She assured me that I should never be ashamed of any of my fantasies and that she would be glad to help me fulfill them. But when I went and got some clay from the art store, showed it to her, and said that we were going to be having some fun, she acted uncomfortable. Once I got the bathtub full of the "mud," got naked, and started to coax her into the room, she totally freaked out.

Needless to say, I was mortified and disappointed, and there was \$50 worth of clay in the tub that I didn't want to go to waste. So I locked her out and decided to try to make the best of it. This backfired because soon she was pounding on the door like she was jealous that I was in there pleasuring myself. I washed off, washed everything down the drain, and opened the door, but it was too late. She was angry and wouldn't say anything the rest of the day. Neither of us has spoken of it since.

I still have my fantasies, but now I feel I have to hide them. I have magazines and videos that I masturbate to, but it goes no further than that. So my questions are:

1. Am I some kind of a freak or weirdo?
2. Have you ever heard of this fetish before?
3. If so, why doesn't anyone else ever write to you about similar fetishes?
4. Will I ever be able to show this side of me to my wife, or should I just hide it from her forever?

Mis-Understood Dude

Let me get this straight: Three years ago you shared your fetish and fantasies with the woman you married two years ago, and your then non-wife assured you that she wanted to help you fulfill all of your fantasies – but she completely flipped out when you filled the tub with clay. And 12 months later, you married her anyway?

I'm not endorsing the way you sprang a tub full of clay on your future wife – maybe she reacted badly because the bathroom was an unholy mess? Maybe you should've stopped everything and talked things through when she acted uncomfortable? Maybe the sight of you half-covered in mud and fully aroused was too much, too soon? – but why on earth didn't you get to the bottom of this before you married this woman?

Sounds to me like you really spooked the wife-to-be, MUD, both with that "Hey, here's a tub full of clay!" move and then, when she balked, by going right ahead with one of your solo mud-and-sex sessions instead of putting your orgasm on hold to, gee, go and inquire after the future wife's feelings about what just went down. At that moment, she may have concluded that given a choice between her and a tub full of clay, you would choose a tub full of clay – because that's just what you did ... and yet she married you anyway.

- People are fucking mysteries, man.
- And in answer to your questions ...
1. Yes, but your kinky weirdo freakiness is charming and harmless and not anything that you need to feel ashamed of, MUD.
 2. Yes, yours is a relatively common fetish, MUD, one that exists on a continuum. Wet-and-messy play can involve substances that are harmless and represent a low barrier to entry for the loving, GGG, nonfetishist partner – mud, food, condiments, etc. – or substances that are not at all harmless and represent an impossibly high barrier to entry, e.g., shit, vomit, snot. Your kink could be much, much more problematic.
 3. Other people have. Yours isn't the first letter I've run from/about a weirdo freak like you.
 4. You already showed this side of yourself to the wife. She knows, you know she knows, but you're both pretending not to know what you damn well do know. To avoid becoming completely sexually estranged, TALK TO YOUR WIFE. Ask her what went wrong – how did she go from "never be ashamed... glad to help [you fulfill your fantasies]" to freaking out and pounding on doors and ignoring the mud-caked elephant in the room for more than three years?
- Ask her to open up – beg her to open up – and apologize to her out of the gate for botching it, for rushing her, for being so insensitive as to prioritize the clay over her feelings after she freaked. And then tell her you want to be able to work on building a healthy, honest and mutually satisfying sexual relationship, one that meets your needs and hers, but to do that you're going to have to start communicating with each other again.

I have a 15-year-old daughter. I am bisexual and work in marketing for the adult industry; both are things I explained to her when I thought she was old enough to form an understanding of what they meant.

Recently, I returned from an adult-industry convention, where I often pick up new toys. One of my gift bags contained a petite sparkly purple vibrator, and I thought, well it's not my style but maybe I should give it to my daughter along with a lecture on masturbation being a great alternative to sex. Even though I am an open-minded and cool mom, this thought still made me uncomfortable, and I relegated the new toy to my nightstand full of gifted-from-vendors toys that aren't my style.

I figured that no teenager wants to be given a masturbatory device by a parent. Was I wrong?

Teenage Masturbation Icky

No, TMI, you were right: No teenager wants to be given a masturbatory device by her parent. But that doesn't mean a teenager – even your teenager – wouldn't be delighted to have a masturbatory device. A moment of awkwardness and a little feigned teenage discomfort/disgust – perhaps even a show of discarding the device where it could be easily retrieved after Mom apologizes and retreats – is a price that most teenage girls would be willing to pay to have a brand-new sparkly purple vibrator of her very own. (Oh, and I'm thinking she knows about your drawer full of misfit sex toys. Maybe you could just tell her that anything in there that's still in its original packaging is up for grabs.)

Some gay friends said that girls don't ever think a penis is cute. I started asking all the chicks I know if they think cocks can be cute. Not one said yes. Gay guys think cocks are cute.

Curious Of Cock Knowledge

No man's cock is cute – well, no man's besides the man who got a Hello Kitty tattoo on the head. A cock can be hot, it can be beautiful, it can be vaguely threatening. But unless there's something very, very wrong, no man's cock is cute and no man wants to be told that his cock is cute.

Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at thestranger.com/savage.

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